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ARAB TIMES

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NO 7203 TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 1988 SHABAN 4, 1408 AH 18 PAGES 150 FILLS

Iranians raid two ships in Gulf

54 feared dead in Kharg attack

OSLO, March 21, (Agencies): Fifty-four seamen are feared dead after Iraqi planes attacked two Iranian super-tankers on Saturday in Kharg terminal in what may be the worst attack on shipping in the Gulf war, shipping sources said.

Iranian gunboats, meanwhile, attacked a Liberian tanker and a Spanish refrigerator ship near the Strait of Hormuz today.

Oslo shipping sources, in touch with Norwegians holding financial stakes in the vessels, said dozens of Iranians at the Kharg island oil terminal, where the ships were hit by Iraqi missiles as they prepared to load oil, were killed or injured.

Missing

Both vessels, the 316,739-tonne Avaj and the 253,387-tonne Sanandaj, were still on fire today.

They said a Swedish officer was among the missing and the four who survived were Filipinos. There was no word on the nationality of other casualties or on how badly the Iranian terminal had been damaged, they said.

"I wouldn't think the missing crew are alive now, since they were attacked on Saturday," one shipping source said.

There has been little information and the sources said Iran was unhappy about details of such attacks leaking out.

Oil from Kharg in the northern Gulf is an important source of funds for Iran in its 7-1/2-year-old war with Iraq.

"Tehran is not willing to give out much detail, but they think there is a very slim chance that anyone else survived," said one source in touch with the Gulf.

The report is the first independent confirmation of Iraqi claims that it caused severe damage and casualties in the raid. Both are owned by the National Iranian Tanker Company.

Confirmed

Oslo shipping sources said four crew members had survived from the Sanandaj and 25 were missing. All 29 on board the Avaj were missing.

If the death toll is confirmed, the attack would be the worst on merchant shipping since the tanker war began in earnest in 1984.

Last December, 21 crewmen on the Norwegian-managed tanker Susangir were killed in an Iraqi attack, the biggest confirmed loss of life so far.

A Norwegian Foreign Ministry spokesman said that the missing men were presumed killed. Puntervold said a Swedish engineering officer was among



A crewman on board the Liberian tanker 'Atlantic Peace' inspects the damage caused to the bridge after the ship came under an Iranian attack. (Reuters wirephoto)

the casualties, while most of the other crewmen were Iranians or Asians.

The London-based Lloyd's shipping intelligence unit said the two vessels were "rumoured badly damaged."

Shipping executives in the Gulf said it was possible that some of the missing men could have been rescued by the Iranians and taken ashore.

But they said that the situation

was likely to remain unclear for some time, as it was with another Iranian tanker, the Susangir, that was hit by the Iraqis in December.

Some 480 ships have been attacked by one side or the other since the war broke out. Until today, more than 200 seamen had been killed.

The two ships hit by the Iranians today were set on fire. Maritime salvage experts, speak-

ing on condition of anonymity, said the blaze aboard the 10,168-ton refrigerator ship Iberian Reefer was "fierce."

Salvage tugboats were racing to aid the vessel, but there was no immediate word on casualties, the officials said.

Gulf-based shipping executives said earlier at least one Iranian gunboat fired up to 10

(Continued on Page 2)

Stick to truth, Amir tells journalists

EXPRESSING his belief in the freedom of press, HH the Amir has called on journalists to stick to truth while writing.

He also highlighted the role of journalism in the service of the country. He was addressing the newly elected board members of the Kuwait Journalists Association.

The Amir expressed satisfaction and pride over the progress of journalism in Kuwait.

He briefed the members on Kuwait's stand toward the developments in the region.

Fate

"It is Kuwait's fate to be near a war of two neighbouring countries," he said but noted that, "with the cohesion and solidarity of the Kuwaiti people we were able to spare our country the evils and perils, which surround the region."

Kuwait, not being involved in the situation, has won the admiration of many governments, he said, adding that French President Francois Mitterrand once wanted to know how Kuwait avoids involvement though very close to the war.

The Amir said, his reply was: "This is the Kuwaiti people."

The strength of the people is rooted through its solidarity and love for their homeland," the Amir added.

Hussein pays tribute to Palestinians OIC meeting begins with appeal for peace

AMMAN, March 21, (Reuters): Jordan's King Hussein opened an Islamic conference today with a tribute to the Palestinian uprising and appeals for peace in the Gulf and Afghanistan.

He told foreign ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, the Palestinian people had "offered waves of sacrifice in resistance to the forces of injustice and darkness" in three months of protests against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"The colonisation policies pursued by Israel are no less perverse than the policy of apartheid practised by the government of South Africa," King Hussein said.

Expression

He said the uprising was "an expression of the will of an entire nation to fight for its freedom and right of self-determination on its own land."

He urged the OIC to back Arab demands for an international Middle East peace conference under UN auspices to be attended by the five permanent Security Council members and the parties involved, including the PLO.

The King called on Iran, which sent a low-level delegation to the OIC conference, to accept a UN Security Council resolution ordering a ceasefire in its war with Iraq.

He exhorted the Afghan people to work for national reconciliation now that the Soviet Union had declared its willingness to withdraw troops from Afghanistan.

"We do hope our brethren will not let this opportunity slip away to restore stability to their country... and to resume their role in the world as an independent non-aligned state and as an active member of the OIC," he said.

Pledge

Pirzada welcomed the Soviet pledge to pull its troops out of Afghanistan, but said an interim government acceptable to anti-Soviet Afghan rebels had to be created.

Political sources say Jordan has tried, at Moscow's request, to persuade Pakistan to soften its stand at the Geneva talks.

An Afghan rebel leader at the conference as an observer said yesterday a seven-party guerrilla alliance had formed an interim government and would ask the OIC to recognise it.

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OIC Secretary-General Sharifuddin Pirzada criticised the United States in his speech for what he called its unquestioning diplomatic and military support for Israel.

"How long will it take the US administration to recognise that the Palestinian people must be restored their inalienable rights?" he asked.

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Syria snubs Habib

BEIRUT, March 21, (Agencies): The As Safir daily reported that Syria has refused to receive US special envoy Philip Habib during his current Middle East tour to discuss Washington's latest initiative to end the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The daily quoted unnamed Syrian sources as saying President Hafez Al Assad's government accuses Habib of reneging on promises he made during Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

Habib held talks with King Hussein and senior members of the Jordanian government last night in Amman. No details emerged. Habib left for Saudi Arabia today.

A Jordanian official said before the talks that Jordan

Intruder shot dead

NEW DELHI, March 21, (AP): An intruder was shot to death while scaling a gate outside Parliament, police said today.

Police spokesman Ravi Pawar said the unidentified man was challenged by security guards shortly after midnight. When the man did not heed their calls, the guards opened fire, Pawar said.

A senior police officer investigating the case said the intruder appeared to be a "crank." The officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the intruder did not possess a weapon and appeared to be harmless.

Security is tight at Parliament because it is in session and Sikh militants are agitating for a separate homeland have threatened to kill Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Shara, a member of the team which visited London, Paris, Moscow, and Beijing last week, said it received a mixed reaction. It did not go to the United States, the other permanent member.

The Arabs want an international peace conference under UN auspices.

Subroto dropped in Jakarta reshuffle

JAKARTA, March 21, (Reuters): President Suharto of Indonesia announced sweeping cabinet changes today, replacing the defence, foreign, energy, and interior ministers in a cabinet to take South-East Asia's largest nation into the 1990s.

Listing his new ministerial team for the next five years, the 66-year-old President replaced Energy Minister and former Opec President Subroto and Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, who had both been in their jobs for 10 years.

Suharto, who was re-elected this month for a fifth five-year term which will keep him in power until 1993, said he was bringing in 19 new ministers.

He named former armed forces commander and intelligence chief General Benny Murdani as Defence Minister, calming speculation of a rift with the military, diplomats said.

The new foreign minister is editor-turned diplomat Ali Alatas, a 55-year-old Muslim who was Indonesia's ambassador to the United Nations.

Investment

Replacing Subroto is former investment chief Ginandjar Kartasasmita, a Tokyo-educated nationalist who is regarded by foreign businessmen as a tough negotiator.

In a nationally-televised announcement, Suharto said his objective was to maintain continuity while bringing younger men into top positions.

"Continuity of development should be given priority by this new cabinet," he declared. He said ministers must work closely with each other to meet strong economic challenges facing the government.

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The Arab Times is proud to announce the opening of the largest, most comprehensively equipped, photographic studio in Kuwait. We've got the very latest, high technology, cameras from Nikon, Canon, Hasselblad and Mamiya as well as the ultimate, large-format studio camera, the 5x4 Sinar with the ultra-modern strobe electronic flash, widely considered to be the finest flash system in the world. Better still, our experienced and talented staff have the necessary artistic skill and technical ability to get the results you want every time. We can offer you the best, most professional, photographic services in Kuwait. Whether you need pictures for advertising, company brochures, annual reports or artwork, large format or 35 mm slides, studio work or location photography, the Arab Times is the professionals' choice.

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آن کے اردو صفحات میں

- عراقی حملوں میں پرتگیزی کے عسکری اہلکاروں کا ہلاک
- جاپان میں اسرائیلی سفارتخانے پر حملہ
- شام نے امریکی ایچی سے لے کر انکار کر دیا
- نیپال اور کرات دہرائے شروع ہو گئے
- پاکستان چوہا ایک روزہ
- اسرائیلی بمبارگیا
- مصیبت ○ یوسفیت

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with moderate northerly wind and some clouds will appear. State of sea: slight to moderate. High water: 3.00 am, 2.00 pm. Low water: 9.00 am, 9.00 pm. Sunrise: 5.50 am. Sunset: 6.01 pm. Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 27°C 81°F. Ahmadi: 25°C 77°F. Fahlaka: 24°C 75°F. Minimum temperature expected: Kuwait: 20°C 68°F. Ahmadi: 24°C 75°F. Fahlaka: 23°C 73°F. Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 14°C 57°F. Ahmadi: 17°C 63°F. Fahlaka: 18°C 64°F. Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 69 per cent. Ahmadi: 74 per cent. Fahlaka: 76 per cent. Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 72 per cent. Ahmadi: 77 per cent. Fahlaka: 79 per cent.

UN meets on PLO mission closure

UNITED NATIONS, March 21, (AP): A US and anti-terrorist law orders the closure of the PLO observer mission at the United Nations today. But there will be no eviction notice and the PLO envoys say, "they will have to drag me away."

There will be more international clamour, however, as the UN General Assembly continues to debate the US plans.

Today and tomorrow, the assembly will consider calls by some delegates for the world body to take legal action on behalf of the PLO and to provide alternate accommodations on UN international territory—off limits to US police.

Plans. Some delegates also want to move the next 159-member General Assembly to Geneva in September or shift the special session on disarmament in May and June to Geneva. Those moves, however, are considered unlikely.

The US Justice Department plans to file suit today in Federal Court in New York to force the closure of the mission, a department spokesman said yesterday.

"We're ready to go ahead and file the papers if they don't close the mission voluntarily," said spokesman Patrick Korten.

Widespread violence on day of confrontation

TEL AVIV, March 21, (Agencies): A Palestinian was shot dead in the Gaza Strip today during a "day of fierce confrontation" called by leaders of an uprising in the occupied territories on the 20th anniversary of an Israeli raid into Jordan.

UN officials said Israeli troops shot Adel Ahmed Abdallah Jaber in a demonstration in the town of Rafah, on the Egyptian border, and he was dead on arrival at Nasser Hospital in nearby Khan Yunis.

The shooting took the unofficial toll of Palestinians who have died in 14 weeks of unrest to 102 and sparked widespread rioting in the southern Gaza Strip, the UN official said.

The officials also said the body of 47-year-old Omar Abu Marakhil from the Jahalya refugee camp was taken to Gaza's Shifa Hospital, where doctors said he had died from severe blows to the head.

Palestinian sources said they believed he had been beaten by troops but the Army said it had no information on the incident.

Unknown assailants attacked the home of Palestinian magazine editor Jack Khazmo in the village of A-Ram, north of

Jerusalem, during the night, firing more than 30 rounds from a Kalashnikov assault rifle into his house.

Khazmo, editor of the nationalist weekly Al Bayad Al Siyasi, was not injured but said the attackers shattered windows and tried to set fire to his and his brother's cars.

An Israeli soldier was shot dead in the West Bank town of Bethlehem yesterday in an apparent departure from the strict ban on the use of firearms imposed by the clandestine "Unified National Leadership of the Uprising."

Today's protests marked the anniversary of a 1968 Israeli commando raid on Palestinian commando bases at Al Karameh in Jordan.

Troops were out in force in Gaza, manning all main road junctions and searching every Arab vehicle entering the coastal strip. All cars from the West Bank were turned back at the Erez checkpoint.

Israel Radio said graffiti scrawled in many parts of the Strip called for attacks on Israeli civilians and soldiers to mark Karameh Day.

Security sources said the mun-

icipality building in the West Bank village of Betunia near Ramallah was set afire overnight.

The top floor, where offices of Israeli-appointed municipal officials are located, and the front door of the building were burned, they said.

Hurled. In the nearby town of El Bireh, two fire bombs were thrown at the home of a Jordanian Member of Parliament, but caused no damage or injuries, police said.

They said Palestinians also hurled two fire bombs at an Israeli car in Hebron which caused no damage.

In Farrah refugee camp, near Nablus, two Palestinians were wounded by live ammunition during violent demonstrations, an Army spokesman said.

Leaders of Israel's 700,000 Arabs decided yesterday to call a general strike in solidarity with Palestinians fighting Israeli rule in the West Bank and Gaza.

Some 12,000 Palestinians demonstrated at Lebanon's largest refugee camp in the southern port city of Sidon today in support of the uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Beirut bomb blast kills 1

BEIRUT, March 21, (Reuters): At least one person was killed and 13 injured when an explosion demolished a four-storey building in West Beirut today, police said.

They said the body of a middle-aged man was pulled from the rubble. The injured were taken to the Makdass Hospital, near the scene of the blast in the crowded Rawass residential district.

They said it was still not clear whether the explosion was the result of a car bomb or explosives placed in the building.

"One of the injured men who was taken to hospital told us the explosion took place inside one of the building's apartments but we are still checking," one police officer said.



Shevardnadze can work together for an international conference under United Nations auspices.

Shultz-Shevardnadze talks

Afghan issue tops agenda

WASHINGTON, March 21, (Reuters): Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze arrived in Washington today for talks that could break the current deadlock over terms for a settlement of the Afghanistan problem and clear the way for Moscow to pull out its troops.

But he gave a clear signal that he would want to probe American intentions in Central America, telling reporters at Andrews Air Force base outside Washington the situation around Nicaragua was "becoming of concern, of serious concern to us."

Shevardnadze is expected to have three formal sessions with Secretary of State George Shultz,

probably towards the end of May, for a summit with Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Shultz and Shevardnadze are expected to discuss an agenda for the summit during their talks and seek to give a fresh impetus to negotiations on a treaty cutting the superpowers' strategic nuclear arsenals by 50 per cent.

In a statement, the Soviet minister said they would also be discussing space weapons, human rights and regional conflicts in talks he hoped, would be "fruitful and constructive."

They will also survey the Middle East problem, where Moscow is urging Washington to set aside efforts to achieve its own settlement so that the two powers

INTERNATIONAL

Ayatollah appears fit

Rise against superpowers: Khomeini

NICOSIA, March 21, (AP): In a rare public appearance, Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini yesterday urged Muslims worldwide to rise against the Soviet Union and the United States, describing them as "forces of oppression and evil."

In a 15-minute, nation-wide speech, broadcast by Tehran Television and monitored in Nicosia, the patriarch of the Islamic revolution also said Iran would continue to fight against Iraq until "final victory," ruling out any peace settlement of the 7-1/2-year-old Gulf war.

Khomeini, 87, spoke on the occasion of Nowruz, the start of the Iranian new year. He appeared physically fit. His voice was strong and he appeared healthier than he was earlier in the year, when he looked frail on television.

Iran's black-turbaned religious guide bailed ancient leaders who sacrificed their lives preaching Islam after the death of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) in the 7th century.

Then he said: "It is incumbent upon every Muslim to rise up and sacrifice all he has for the cause of Islam."

He urged "Muslims all over the world (to) rise against the



Khomeini: rules out peace

forces of oppression and evil." "The superpowers claim to advocate justice. In fact, all they want is to impose their will and make us obey them. They would like it if we obey them," he said.

He urged his nation not to be "deceived by foreign propaganda," apparently echoing criticism by Iranian officials in recent days that the international media has ignored Iran's alleged victories on the war front.

US naval battle group arrives in South Korea

N.Korea places troops on alert

SEOUL, March 21, (Reuters): A US naval battle group arrived in South Korea today as North Korea put its troops on top combat alert, denouncing the annual war games in the South as an "extremely dangerous test nuclear war exercise."

The six-vessel force, led by the 64,000-ton carrier Midway, anchored off Pusan on the southeastern tip of the divided peninsula to take part in manoeuvres involving 140,000 South Korean and 60,000 American troops.

A spokesman for the United Nations Command (UNC) said North Korea had been invited, as in previous years, to send observers to watch "Team Spirit '88," 13th in an annual series of what are billed as joint US-South Korean defensive exercises.

Pyeongyang ignored the offer.

Instead it announced today it had ordered "complete combat mobilisation" of its troops and militia in face of what it said was "a vicious offensive operational exercise aimed at waging a pre-emptive strike against our republic."

A radio Pyongyang statement, monitored in London, called Team Spirit an extremely dangerous test nuclear war exercise.

It added: "An extremely grave situation has been created on the Korean peninsula in which an all-out war could break out at any time."

Officials at the UNC, which has overall command over South Korean troops defending the demilitarised zone and the 41,000 US servicemen based here, said North Korea had issued violent denunciations of previous year's

manoeuvres, and they saw nothing qualitatively new in the latest statement.

Diplomats in Seoul, however, cautioned against underestimating Pyongyang's anger. They said that while the rhetoric might sound familiar, the present context in North-South relations was a particularly dangerous one.

In recent years the South's growing prosperity and status in the world community has irked the North, which reacted with fury to the International Olympic Committee's decision to award Seoul the 1988 Olympic Games.

Seoul and Washington have warned of attempts to whip up tension along the border, or of terrorist attacks in the South before and during the Games.

Protest strike marks Sharpeville Day

SOWETO, March 21, (Reuters): Hundreds of thousands of black South Africans staged strikes in defiance of the white-led government today to mark the anniversary of the 1960 Sharpeville massacre.

Despite a ban on political strikes, Soweto and other black townships around Johannesburg were paralysed by the protest which hit numerous factories and businesses across South Africa's industrial heartland.

The protest had a big impact in several areas of eastern Cape

province, where transport officials said up to 80 per cent of blacks stayed at home, but it appeared to flop in some cities and many other towns.

Crackdown

Local businessmen reported Cape Town and Durban were barely affected. The anniversary, commemorating 69 blacks shot dead by police at Sharpeville south of Johannesburg, is one of the most emotive days of South Africa's political calendar.

A government crackdown last month, effectively banning 17

leading anti-apartheid groups, hampered efforts to stage coordinated nationwide action but the strike call reached millions of blacks through pamphlets and word of mouth.

The pamphlets called for all blacks except nurses and journalists to back the strike. Full details may not be reported under censorship regulations.

This year's demonstrations were fuelled by death sentences passed on six Sharpeville residents for complicity in the 1984 mob killing of Deputy Mayor Jacob Dlamini.

Zhao steals thunder from Li

BEIJING, March 21, (Reuters): A major speech by Chinese Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang calling for fast economic growth has stolen acting Premier Li Peng's thunder and indicated major policy differences, Western diplomats say.

All major newspapers today carried a speech by Zhao to the party's Central Committee on March 15 in which he said China could maintain fast and sustained economic growth this year, provided it improved efficiency.

The speech came shortly before Li's scheduled keynote address to China's parliament, the National People's Congress, which opens its annual session on Friday.

"Zhao's speech covers most of the points Li is going to make," one Western diplomat said. "He has stolen his thunder."

Differed

He said the two men differed on how fast China's economy should grow, with Zhao arguing for a rapid pace at the risk of rising inflation and Li arguing for caution at the risk of under-productivity and under-utilisation of resources.

Another diplomat said that while considerable differences



Zhao: speech

over economic policy existed between Zhao and Li, open political conflict was unlikely to develop. "Zhao's line was approved last year and has the blessing of Deng Xiaoping (China's senior leader)," the diplomat said.

In his speech, Zhao spoke of "conflicts of interest" existing in China and said the party needed to be more open in its dealing with people.

Conflicts

"Many social contradictions can be solved through reforms but in the process new conflicts and adjustments of interest groups will occur," Zhao was quoted as saying by the party newspaper People's Daily.

An article in Friday's Economic Daily arguing Zhao's line said economic growth and price stability were contradictory. Diplomats took this as aimed at Li, who has said stabilising prices is a major priority in 1988.

Inflation has become a major problem in China and a source of social unrest.

54 feared dead in Kharg attack

(Continued from Page 1)

rocket-propelled grenades at the 61,762-ton Liberian-registered Fumi today, setting its engine room ablaze and blasting holes in one of its tanks.

The Japanese-managed tanker, laden with Saudi Arabian oil, was on its way out of the Gulf. There were no reports of casualties, the officials said.

The London-based Lloyd's shipping intelligence unit quoted the Fumi's captain as reporting "no injuries, but big damage around accommodation (quarters) by six rounds of rocket gunfire. Now keeping on my way."

Iranian gunboats attacked the 84,631-ton Liberian-flag Atlantic Peace yesterday in almost the same area off Ras Al Khaimah in the UAE, near the entrance to the Strait.

Fire

The Atlantic Peace was hit by six rocket-propelled grenades that started a small fire. But it was quickly extinguished, the officials reported.

Today's Iranian attacks were in apparent retaliation for Iraq's raid on Kharg in the northern end of the Gulf.

The executives said salvage gunboats helped the Fumi's crew put out the fire aboard the tanker.

Iraq said it fired another missile at Tehran today as the "war of the cities" showed no sign of abating after more than three weeks.

It was the 34th launched at the city of six million people since a two-day informal truce in the raids on population centres collapsed eight days ago.

The Iraqi News Agency quoted its correspondent in the southern Iraqi port city of Basra as saying the city came under intensive bombardment by Iranian rockets and long-range artillery overnight and today.

"The bombardment, which also covered residential areas at Al Der Al Zubair townships north and south of Basra, killed and wounded a number of civilians, destroyed houses, shops and cars," INA said.

The Iranian News Agency said eight civilians were killed and 17 wounded when a long-range Iraqi missile hit a residential neighbourhood of Tehran late last night.

Another 25 people were killed and 46 wounded in Iraqi air raids on the western cities of Broujerd and Hamadan last night, the agency reported. It said a mosque in Broujerd was hit.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bird flown back

BIRMINGHAM, England, March 21, (AP): A bird that apparently was blown 1,000 miles (1,600 km) off course was flown back to its place in the sun with full VIP treatment aboard a jetliner yesterday.

The Alpine Swift was cared for at a bird reserve until British Airways offered to fly it back to Faro, Portugal.

Students riot

PORT ARIAS, Texas, March 21, (UPI): Thousands of students on spring break rioted in a four-hour melee broken up early yesterday by police firing tear gas, authorities said. Seven people were injured and eight were arrested.

Police said the rioting was triggered when a car driven by a non-student hit a woman on the beach and tried to flee.

Truck accident

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, March 21, (UPI): Sixty-one religious pilgrims died yesterday and 18 were injured when a truck in which they were travelling crashed through a bridge railing and plunged 300 feet (100 m) into a ravine, officials said.

Egypt extends emergency

CAIRO, March 21, (AP): With an overwhelming majority, Parliament yesterday approved a three-year extension of emergency laws that the government said were needed to combat fundamentalists and terrorist threats.

The Middle East news agency said 94 of the 95 opposition members of parliament voted against the extension, as well as two of the six independent members.

It said two members of the government's National Democratic Party also voted against it, but the rest of the 355 NDP members and the four independent members voted for the extension.

Approved

During the evening session and before the vote was taken, a committee headed by Rifat El-Mabgoub, head of the People's Assembly or Parliament, approved the extension of the emergency laws which have been in existence since president Anwar Sadat was assassinated Oct 6, 1981, by Muslim fundamentalists.

The Middle East news agency said the new extension would be in force from May 1st to 31st May, 1991.

"The emergency measures are conducted within the framework of legality and sovereignty of the constitution and are under complete judicial supervision and there is no reason to fear these measures which enable us to weed out plots," Mena quoted a parliamentary committee's report as saying.

The emergency laws ban demonstrations, unauthorised assembly and strikes, and give the government wide powers of search without warrant and detention of people regarded as security risks.

Bangladesh may lift emergency in April

DHAKA, March 21, (AP): The government may lift the state of emergency by mid-April when the newly elected Parliament is expected to convene, the speaker of the Parliament was quoted today as saying.

The emergency was imposed Nov 27 after the opposition launched a series of marches and strikes against President Hossain Mohammad Ershad.

Shamsul Huda Chowdhury, the Speaker, said the legislative body's inaugural session may start about April 15, the independent Inqilab newspaper reported.

"Parliament and emergency rule cannot go together," the Bengali-language newspaper quoted Chowdhury as saying.

Major opposition parties boycotted the March 3 parliamentary elections and refuse to participate in future elections unless Ershad resigns from the presidency.

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Bombs rock central Tokyo

TOKYO, March 21, (Reuters): Two explosions rocked part of central Tokyo today and police said one was apparently caused by a bomb under a car parked near the Israeli embassy.

The Israeli embassy said the explosion occurred around 50 metres (yards) from the mission in the parking lot of a local television station.

Police said the bomb damaged the roof of the lot and smashed windows in a building opposite. "There is absolutely no connection between the explosion and the embassy," an embassy spokesman said.

"This is not the only explosion in Tokyo. Police sources have told us that it is the work of an organisation fighting against Narita airport."

Related

Past bomb attacks in Japan have often been related to the construction of Narita, Tokyo's main airport, 40 miles (60 km) north-east of the city. Local farmers and radicals oppose the airport.

The other blast, in the Japanese capital's main business district, broke the window of the Saudi Arabian Airlines office and knocked down the airline's street sign.

Police said there were no reports of casualties from the explosions, which occurred almost simultaneously shortly after seven p.m. (1000 GMT).

A television news report showed film of a motorbike blown apart in the business district explosion.

Kyodo news agency said police suspected that a radical leftist organisation could be responsible for the explosions. It said police did not identify the organisation.

Indian denial

NEW DELHI, March 21, (Reuters): An Indian government spokesman dismissed today a news report from Washington that India has built about 20 highly sophisticated nuclear bombs.

"It does not even merit a comment," an External Affairs Ministry spokesman told reporters querying the report from Washington by a news agency that the low-yield bombs could be delivered by combat aircraft.

Protestants demand to step up security at IRA funerals

BELFAST, March 21, (AP): Protestant leaders demanded British authorities resume policing IRA funerals after five people died during burials in a four-day period, including two British soldiers.

The demands came yesterday, as police fired plastic bullets at youths who hijacked a bus in Roman Catholic West Belfast and tried to attack a riot squad, authorities said. No injuries were reported.

Tom King, Northern Ireland Secretary, was expected to come under pressure today, in the House of Commons in London, over the killing of the two plainclothes British soldiers who were dragged from their car on Saturday by IRA mourners who then beat, stripped and fatally shot them.

On Wednesday, as security

Indian troops launch search for Tigers chief Prabhakaran

COLOMBO, March 21, (Agencies): About 6,000 strong Indian troops keeping force (IPKF) backed by helicopter yesterday launched a search operation for Velupillai Prabhakaran, the fleeing leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), in the northern province of Sri Lanka, military sources said.

After Prabhakaran's bunker in the north-east of Vavuniya had been captured by the IPKF last week, he was reportedly on the run in dense jungle in the North and Eastern Provinces.

The IPKF will search the jungle between Vavuniya and Trincomalee to the south, and between Mullaitivu and Mannar on the coastlines to the east and west of the island.

Killed

Indian troops killed five Tiger women guerrillas in a gunfight in north-east Sri Lanka at the weekend, military officials said.

A man from LTTE died in a second battle in Mullaitivu district.

One Indian soldier also died.

Easy victory for Bush in Puerto Rico

Jackson is right behind Dukakis

DETROIT, March 21, (AP): Michael Dukakis has a quarter of the delegates needed to win the Democratic presidential nomination, but Jesse Jackson is right behind after a weekend of good showings for both Democrats in Kansas, Texas and Puerto Rico. Among Republicans, George Bush swept to his 23rd victory.

Democratic candidates turned their attention to Michigan, in the nation's north-central Midwest, where caucuses on Saturday offer the next big delegate prize of the season.

Boosting

Congressman Richard Gephardt leads the parade into the state today, talking with auto executives and steelworkers as he works for the victory he must have here to rescue his campaign.

Nearby Wisconsin looks like the next major battleground for the Republicans, after Bush won his latest victory in the Puerto Rico primary yesterday. The Vice President won with ease over Sen. Bob Dole, who admitted that he has done little to slow down Bush's drive for the Republican nomination.

Bush picked up the 14 delegates at stake in Puerto Rico, boosting his total to 788. That's nearly 70 per cent of the 1,139 he needs to win at the national convention in New Orleans this summer.

Dole, who hasn't won at event since Feb 23, has only 178. Former television evangelist Pat Robertson had 17.

Uncommitted

In Puerto Rico, Jackson won the non-binding preference poll with Dukakis running second and Simon third. But it was a fight more about local matters than presidential politics.

The 5f delegates from Puerto Rico all ran as uncommitted, and the campaigns promised major efforts to woo them in coming weeks.

Dukakis won the Kansas caucuses on Saturday, picking up 16 delegates. But Jackson rode strong urban support into a surprising second place and 14 delegates.

"It's the first farm and agriculture state that I've won and won decisively," Dukakis said at a dinner in Detroit on Saturday night. "I think that's a very good sign for the future. Now we're on to Michigan and here we are."

The 50,000 Indian troops deployed in Sri Lanka under an Indo-Sri Lankan peace accord have stepped up operations in the north of the island. Their week-old offensive has smashed several LTTE hideouts and captured arms and ammunition, the officials said on Monday.

At Kalmunai in the east, gunmen kidnapped and killed the Tamil president of the town's peace committee.

Permission

Meanwhile, two newspapers, today questioned why the Sri Lanka government had sent a senior minister to India to seek permission for Colombo troops to protect villages from Tamil rebel attacks.

The Dinanase Sinhalase language newspaper, the mouthpiece of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, has asked whether Sri Lanka has finally conceded its independence to India.

The Dravina newspaper also said Sinhalase but independent asked in its editorial "why was it necessary for Sri Lanka to get permis-

sion from India to despatch out troops to the north and east of our country?"

In this month Tamil rebels have shot and killed nearly 100 Sinhalese villagers in the troubled eastern district, shot at passenger buses and raided unprotected villages. Many of the dead were women and little children.

Visit

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The British Council Kuwait

Study in Britain

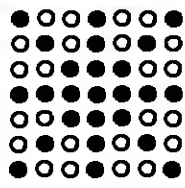
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Opening Times:

Monday, 21st March 1988, 4pm - 6.30pm
Tuesday, 22nd March 1988, 4pm - 8.00pm
Wednesday, 23rd March 1988, 4pm - 8.00pm



Kuwait shows interest in Turkish plan to provide water

By Fathima Ahmed

KUWAIT has shown "apparent interest" in a proposed Turkish plan to provide water to the Arabian peninsula through a multi-billion dollar "peace pipeline project".

A Turkish delegation in Kuwait yesterday on a one day visit to seek "cooperation and facilities" to carry out a feasibility study for the pipeline project.

The leader of the seven-member delegation, Necati Utkan, yesterday said: "Kuwaiti officials were careful but they have shown apparent interest in the idea." He held talks with Kuwait's Minister of Electricity and Water, and several high-level officials. Documents of a preliminary feasibility study were handed over for evaluation.

Utkan described the idea as the "brainchild" of Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal. The idea was proposed in 1986.

The team has already visited Syria, Jordan and the UAE. Yesterday they flew to Bahrain and will go on to Qatar and Oman before returning to Ankara later this month. Water from two rivers Seyhan and Ceyhan will be supplied through the proposed pipeline, which will be split into two: Western pipeline and Gulf pipeline.

The \$8.5 billion Western pipeline will be built in two phases pumping 3.5 billion cubic metres of water each day. In the initial phase it will supply water south to Syria and Jordan. In the second phase, water supply would be extended to Saudi Arabia.

The \$12.5 billion Gulf pipeline originates in south-central Anatolia and follows the old Trans-Arabian pipeline route, supplying 2.5 billion cubic metres of water each day to Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the UAE and Oman.

The pipelines, to be constructed through mountains and under desert sands in the Gulf, will have 16 pumping stations. The Gulf pipeline would be bran-

ched off to Kuwait, and according to a preliminary study, Kuwait's quota would get 600,000 cubic metres of water each day.

Turkey has earmarked "\$2.5 million to conduct a feasibility study and has despatched the team to sell the idea.

At the moment Turkey is looking "for cooperation and facilities" to conduct the feasibility. The project is "economically feasible and technically attractive", said Utkan.

The Turkish officials believe that the "peace pipeline will forge closer links among the nations in the region." They also see it as a means of reducing overdependence on "one source of water".

"Isn't it better to have alternatives, they ask, insisting that desalination plants would not be phased out. They also consider it as a cheaper means of getting water, than, say, pulling icebergs from the North Pole, or bringing sweet water from Canada.

Turkish water would cost between 84 cents and \$1.04 per cubic metre, less than half the amount needed to extract potable water from desalination plants.

Critics are concerned about the possibility of turning the Gulf "hostage" in the hands of Turkey that will be able to control the tap. The Turkish officials are not apprehensive about a possibility of disruption. "When something like water is concerned, everybody will have an interest and will preserve it," asserts Utkan. "That is why it is called the peace pipeline project", says Gerol Dine, director of Turkey's State Planning Department.

The feasibility would be completed in a year's time. After that, Turkey expects "an informed decision from the nations involved."

If the project gets off the ground it would be built in 10 years time.

Telephone subscribers' names to be corrected

KUWAIT'S Ministry of Communications is attempting to correct the names and addresses of telephone subscribers. The ministry said that many telephone bills were returned to the ministry because of incorrect addresses.

The ministry is contacting by phone all such subscribers, from 4 to 8 pm to check on the correct address for billing.

The ministry has requested subscribers who have not received their telephone bills to call the ministry at the following numbers: 4836268 and 4836269 (mornings) and 5841965 and 4812197 (evenings).

Committee to study ministry's performance

ACCORDING to well-informed sources at Kuwait's Public Health Ministry a number of ministerial decisions will be issued in the near future regarding work performance and improvement in health services in the country.

Sources said the Health Minister Dr Abdul Razzak Al Abdul Razzak had made several unannounced visits to health centres and hospitals over the past few weeks and had toured the various sections in order to acquaint himself with the level of service offered.

The minister formed an ad-hoc committee to study the functions of certain ministry departments and divisions, which has submitted its recommendations for a new ministry work policy.

Exhibition

THE public administration of jails and judgements implementation will hold the annual exhibition of prisoners' products at the Kuwait Teachers Society in Dasma area from April 2 to 10. The products will be sold at low prices.



Turkey's Ambassador to Kuwait, Omar Al Fazari, hosted a party at his residence on the occasion of Turkey's Independence Day. Fazari welcomed the Undersecretary of Kuwait's Foreign Ministry, Sulaiman Majed Al Shaheen.

Forging closer ties with future leaders

UK encouraging Kuwaitis to study in British institutes

By Jadranka Porter

BRITAIN is trying to encourage Kuwaitis to pursue their higher education in the UK as a means of forging closer ties with future Kuwaiti leaders in all fields.

"In the long term it will be good for Britain's relations with the Gulf states if we educate the Gulf Arabs who are going to be in positions of power", said David Sharp the head of the British education mission currently visiting Kuwait.

R. Alexander of the University of Bradford, also on the mission, pointed out that the effort could be mutually beneficial. "The foreign students educate our potential leaders," he said adding that this could improve the British government policy which in his view lacks international perspective.

A group of British academics representing 12 universities and two polytechnics are on the last leg of a Gulf tour which also took them to the UAE and Bahrain.

The visit initiated by the British Council is the first group effort, although some British universities have made contacts in the Gulf before.

The academics are on a three-day exploratory mission to Kuwait scanning the scene with the aim of establishing long term collaboration with local education authorities. The academics held talks yesterday at Kuwait University.

They will also hold talks with the Public Authority for Applied Education and different scientific institutes.

They are holding consultative sessions at the Sheraton Hotel with those interested in studying in Britain. Similar sessions in Bahrain and the UAE were extremely well attended.

"In Bahrain we had 400 people at one session alone," said Sharp.

Kamal Andrawes of the University of Strathclyde expected that in Kuwait most of the inquiries will be in connection with the post-graduate courses.

Sharp said that the presence of foreign students is also financially important for British universities. Tuition fees for courses in social studies are £4,000, in engineering and science £5,250 and in medicine and dentistry £9,000 per year. Living expenses for foreign students in Britain are estimated at £2,500 for undergraduate and £3,500 for post graduate students for each academic year.

Foreign Students manage to adjust well to life in Britain said the academics.

"Many problems that were there 10 years ago were eased as British cities have become cosmopolitan" said Alexander.

34 accidents

THERE were 34 traffic accidents in Kuwait yesterday.

Seven took place in the capital, three in Hawalli, 13 in Ahmadi and 11 in Jahra.



David Sharp

"Material difficulties such as availability of their foodstuffs and places of worship have disappeared. There are cultural differences but foreign students have to adjust and they do."

The British universities are also prepared to go out of their way to accommodate some of the demands of the Arab students such as the self-contained accommodation for girls from conservative families. But Sharp said that mixed classes will remain to be a feature of British academic institutes.



R. Alexander



Kamal Andrawes

Crown Prince of Qatar in London



Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani of Qatar reviews the first battalion of Irish Guards in London yesterday at the start of his first official visit to Britain. (Reuters wirephoto)

LONDON: March 21. (Agency) Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Crown Prince of Qatar, flew into London yesterday for his first official visit to Britain.

Sheikh Hamad, 36, who is Defence Minister and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, arrived from his capital, Doha, by a private Boeing 707 for a red-carpet reception at Heathrow Airport at the start of his three-day visit.

He was met by the Foreign Office's Minister of State, David Mellor, and a Royal Air Force

guard of honour. Early yesterday, Sheikh Hamad was at his residence in the Dorchester Hotel, central London, Britain's Defence Secretary George Younger.

Later, the Qatari Crown Prince was inspecting a guard of honour at the Foreign Office, accompanied by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Talks Sheikh Hamad will have talks with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and Energy Secretary Cecil Parkinson.

He will also meet Prince Charles, the heir to the throne, and his sister, Princess Anne.

With Sheikh Hamad was his brother, Sheikh Abdul Aziz Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Minister of Finance and Petroleum, who will have talks with Nigel Lawson, the Treasury Minister.

Qatar's Foreign Minister, Sheikh Ahmad Bin Saif Al Thani, was also on the flight.

The Qatari embassy said the talks will cover bilateral relations, the Palestinians, the Iran-Iraq war and other Middle East issues.

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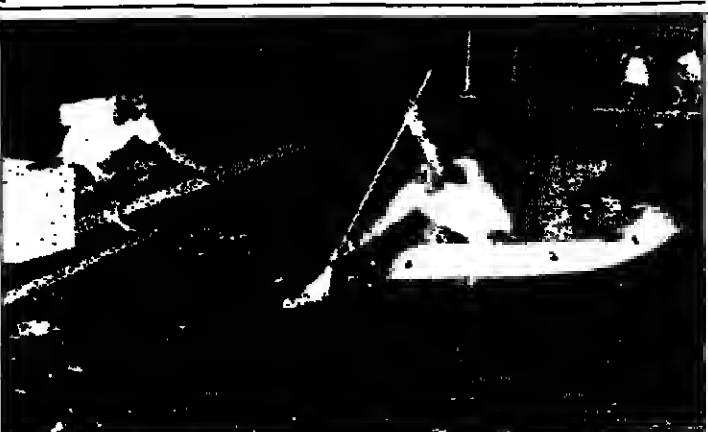
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The first elimination in the Holiday Inn Interschool Knockout Competition was won by the Kuwait English School with a score of 24 points. The second place and qualification for the finals was taken by the American Universal School with 16 points. Sunshine School was third with 14 points. The second round, involving Gulf English, French and Arabic Schools will be held on March 22 at 5 pm. Spectators are welcome. Picture shows one of the contests in the first round.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Arab summit

A KUWAITI daily yesterday stressed that the Arab summit, currently being prepared for, will not be able to realise its designated goals, accusing Arabs of being "unqualified" to find an exit from crisis.

Al Rai Al Aam said, in a front-page editorial, that solutions to Arab causes will not come through summits, no matter how extraordinary they may be, noting that a successful gathering would be one that backs the Palestinian uprising militarily.

"We want the conference as part of a comprehensive Arab and Islamic drive which aims at formulating a balance related to a real stance which deals with the uprising and the Iraq-Iran war through strategic considerations, and away from barter deals, auctions and incomplete proposals," the paper said.

It warned that the wars and crisis Arab face can longer be settled through emergency summits, where more serious actions are needed such as political and military confrontations with Israel and its allies.

GULF PRESS

Racial discrimination

A UNITED Arab Emirates English language daily in an editorial marking the International day for the elimination of racial discrimination called for focusing attention on Zionism and apartheid.

The Dubai-based Khaleej Times described the two policies as the "worst and most institutionalised form" of racial discrimination. The international day for the elimination of racial discrimination is observed by the United Nations today which is the anniversary of two notable massacres of blacks by the South African government.

The English language daily pointed out "Zionism has been equated with racism in countless United Nations documents."

"The effort being made by Israel to destroy and negate the identity of the Palestinians is nothing but blatant racism and neo-colonialism," it added.

Pointing to the closer relations between Israel and South Africa the paper said "It is not by accident that there is such close economic, military and political cooperation" between the two repressive regimes.

"There are many other manifestations of racism throughout the world but Zionism and apartheid represent the evil in its worst and most institutionalised form."

Experts at Justice Ministry examine cases

KHALED Al Mudfi, the director of the experts department at Kuwait's Justice Ministry, said the department examines cases referred by courts, general prosecution and the Criminal Investigation Department. The department also makes recommendations on reports submitted by special legal advisors which cover technical matters related to individual cases.

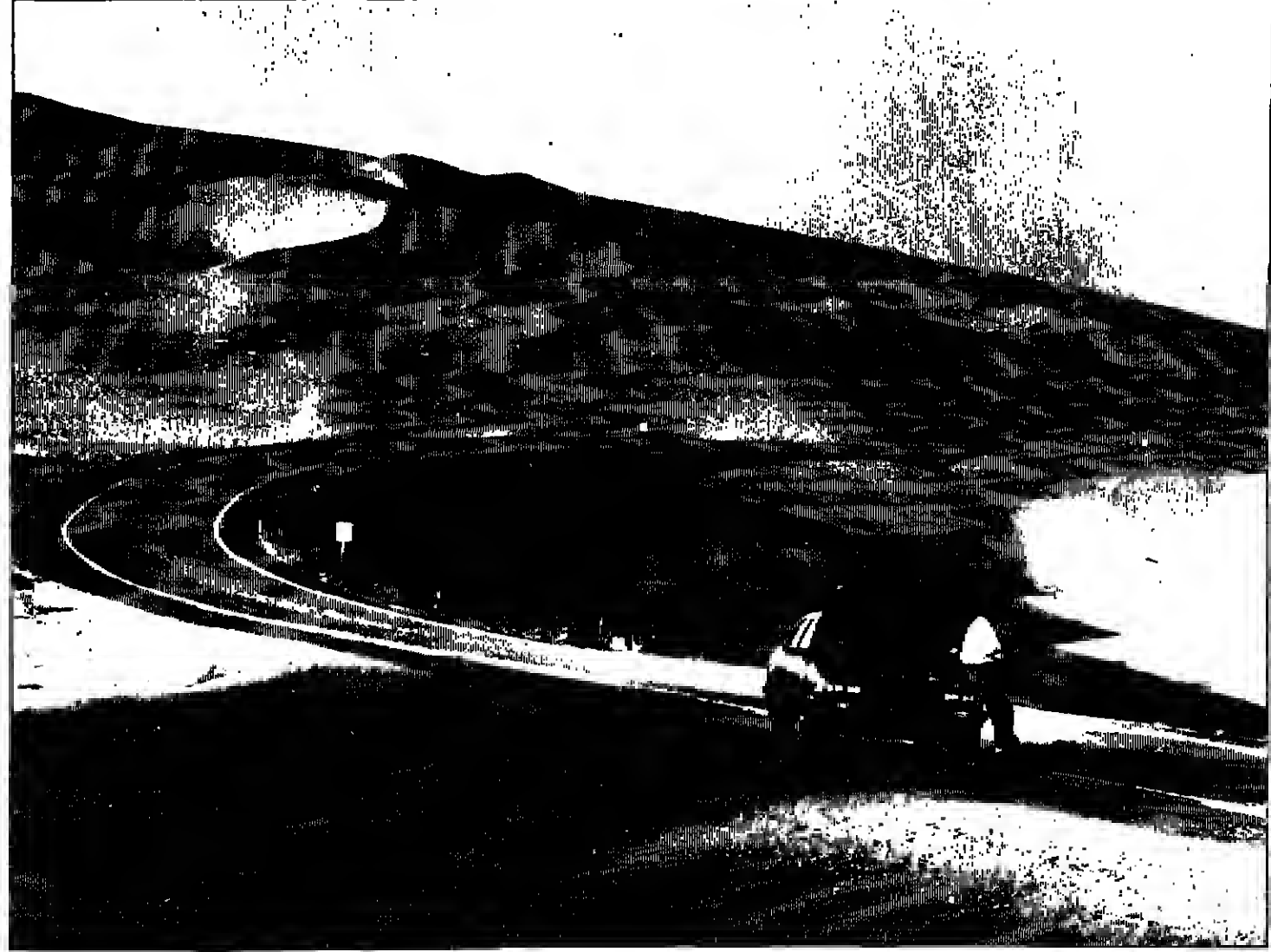
The Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Kuwait University and Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research are sometimes involved in special research for

the department, Al Mudfi added. He said the department had completed a total of 4,568 cases in 1983 and had completed 1,546 cases in the last four months.

Al Mudfi denied that there was any international delay in completing work referred by legal authorities, stressing that the nature of their work required careful consideration before decisions could be reached.

He added that the ministry encouraged Kuwaiti young people to enter the department with various privileges and benefits.

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Manpower stability by next year: Mishari

KAC expects to make \$60m from chartering unused planes

By Lima Al Khalafawi

KUWAIT Airways Corporation Chairman and Managing Director Ahmad Al Mishari said KAC would achieve manpower stability within the next year. He said that the decrease in manpower was due to the company's general policy of curbing expenditures which has yielded positive results.

In a speech at the opening session of the annual conference, Al Mishari said the KAC had been able to recover KD13 million of the total KD25 million in lost investments in countries such as Iran, India, Libya and Egypt, due to political and economic conditions. He explained that the company is looking for reinvestment opportunities in these countries as a means of fully recovering its losses.

KAC has two Jumbo jets leased which will return to the fleet in May and June and two Airbus will be leased to other airlines, he said, adding "this is better than selling them."

Standardise
He emphasised that this would not affect KAC's performance.

In the next two years, he pointed out, KAC is expecting profits of \$60 million from chartering unused airplanes from its fleet to other airlines.



Ahmed Al Mishari addressing the press conference.

The decision to standardise air fares, he said, has been postponed, leaving the market to organise itself. The airlines are voluntarily attempting to avoid price discrepancies, he added. He said KAC has no intentions of competing with travel agencies in any way, adding, "KAC is a national airline and people should be encouraged to travel with us."

Al Mishari said KAC had been able to achieve its goal by contin-

uous research on the best methods of marketing in all areas. KAC's assets have increased to an estimated KD500 million which is far above their book value.

KAC has been forced to adapt to conditions in the region resulting from the Iran-Iraq war and has dropped its flights to Tehran, flying instead to Dubai where passengers connect with Iran Air.

Project

Al Mishari said KAC is considering a project with the Kuwait-based Public Investment Authority to establish an international travel firm that would utilise KAC's operations and serve as a promoter for KAC in hotels owned by Kuwait worldwide.

KAC is also negotiating with the authority regarding a project that would ensure the best use of KAC's foreign accounts and investments in touristic ventures. Al Mishari said. He estimated the current value of these foreign accounts at KD13 million.

Regarding investments abroad, Al Mishari said the company had not been affected by the stock market slump and that KAC investments were still earning profits.

The economic situation has forced airlines to adopt policies of cooperation with inter-

national airlines, he said.

"KAC is discussing a proposal to cooperate with three other airlines in offering flights to South America and Australia," he added.

In the Gulf area, KAC is increasing the number of flights to GCC states and has established, along with Saudia and Gulf Air, a holding company to establish joint projects such as the Islamic kitchen.

Al Mishari said KAC is also working on the establishment of a shareholding company for joint reservations service which would benefit all reservation offices and airlines operating from Kuwait.

Sheikh Sabah meetings

ACTING Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed yesterday received the French ambassador to Kuwait.

During the meeting, Sheikh Sabah discussed with the French envoy matters of bilateral and common interest to Kuwait and France.

Sheikh Sabah also received the Minister of Public Works, Abdul Rahman Ibrahim Al Houti and the head of the technical committee in the Kuwait Municipality, Mohammad Boudi.



The Soviet Ambassador to Kuwait, Ernest Zverev, yesterday held a reception on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Kuwait at the Hilton Hotel. The Soviet Ambassador is welcoming the Moroccan Ambassador, Mohammad Al Basseri (right).

Indian workers still negotiating

Employer sets deadline for reaching accord

By Fathima Ahmed

THIRTY TWO Indian workers camping at the Indian embassy since March 14, misunderstanding between the employer and employees arose due to a "demand letter" signed by Al Ajmi to "fulfil formalities" of recruiting labour from India.

Al Ajmi, in an interview last night, said he would not continue negotiations if talks "fail" today.

"I will never sit down and talk again," he said. "If they want to return home, I'll give them a farewell party," he said. But the company will not bear the expenses of sending back the labourers.

"If the workers don't accept my fair deal, I'll be forced to take other steps," he said, hinting at a possibility of notifying the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour to handle the issue.

Al Ajmi has offered the workers, all drivers, a total salary of KD100, broken down as basic salary — KD50, food allowance — KD40 and performance allowance — KD10. Drivers would be given a day off each week.

The drivers' basic pay is KD50, plus 40 dinars overtime. In lieu of the overtime payment, Al Ajmi said he would pay KD40 to the drivers as food allowance. "They'll have a normal eight-hour working day, thus eliminating overtime payment. Instead of that I am willing to

give them KD40 food allowance," he said.

These terms would be incorporated in a new contract. If the workers agree, the new contract would be attested by the Indian embassy.

Misguiding

The drivers have been camping at the Indian embassy since March 14. Misunderstanding between the employer and employees arose due to a "demand letter" signed by Al Ajmi to "fulfil formalities" of recruiting labour from India.

Al Ajmi claimed the recruiting agents told him that he could sign the "demand letter" which states general contract terms and pay scale. The letter said the salary of workers would be KD100. "They told me it is just a formality," he said.

After coming to Kuwait, the drivers signed another contract stating KD90 as the total salary, broken down as KD50 basic pay plus KD40 overtime. The contract is in Arabic and English, with a Malayalam translation.

Consult

Al Ajmi blamed "five or six drivers of abusing the other poor drivers by misguiding them." According to Al Ajmi, some drivers "created a feeling of discontent" among the others, forcing them to "go to the Indian embassy."

"They did not approach the management about their problem, nor did they consult us before going to the embassy. One morning they just did not report

for work," he said.

Commenting on the role of the embassy officials Al Ajmi said he appreciates "the understanding of officials and the difficult position the embassy has been placed under."

"I have compromised. I expect the workers to compromise. If they don't, I'll have no choice but to take the matter to the court," he said.

In a Kuwaiti court the last contract in Arabic, is considered valid.

Al Ajmi said that "after signing the last contract," all other documents are "invalidated."

"The workers are keen to settle the issue. We expect to arrive at a compromise today," said an embassy official. The drivers are in a "vulnerable spot" because they signed a new contract in Kuwait.

Officials expect to "iron out one or two minor points" during discussions at a meeting today and reach a favourable settlement, beneficial to both parties.

Bishara meets US envoy

GCC Secretary-General Abdullah Yacoub Bishara met today with the US ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

Bishara discussed with the US ambassador horizons of cooperation between the six Gulf Cooperation Council states and the US and issues of mutual concern.

Syria pledges to defend Saudi Arabia

DAMASCUS, March 21, (Agencies): Syria pledged today to help defend Saudi Arabia against Israeli attack after Israel expressed concern at the Saudi acquisition of Chinese ground-to-ground missiles.

China confirmed today it had sold missiles to Saudi Arabia, saying they were non-nuclear and for defensive purposes only.

Israeli Minister without portfolio Yitzhak Moda'i said on Sunday Israel would not tolerate the presence on Saudi soil of the missiles, believed to be CSS-2-class weapons capable of reaching Israeli territory.

Aggressive
"These statements uncovered the aggressive nature of the Israeli enemy and its aims for imposing its domination and control of the region and the entire Arab nation," an official Syrian source said in a statement.

"It is natural any aggression against the sister kingdom of Saudi Arabia is an aggression against Syria with all what this might require in shouldering all national responsibilities to confront the aggression," he said.

An Israeli newspaper reported on Sunday that Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, currently in the United States, warned US officials that Saudi Arabia must get rid of the missiles that have the range to reach Israel.

Israel Radio quoted Yossi Ben Aharon, one of Shamir's closest aides, as saying Israel would not wait until a potential danger became a real one.

In 1981, Israeli planes destroyed a nuclear reactor in Iraq in what Israel said was a pre-emptive strike to stop Baghdad building nuclear weapons to use against the Jewish state.

GCC Traffic Week

RIYADH, March 21, (Kuna): The 4th GCC Traffic Week will be held from March 26 to 31 with the theme "Pay attention to the road."

A responsible source at the GCC secretariat-general said this traffic week was meant to make GCC citizens aware of traffic rules and road safety.

He said that the GCC states will organise seminars, lectures and television programmes, as well as contests on traffic rules and the theme of the week.

The GCC secretariat-general will issue a pamphlet explaining the aims of the 4th Traffic Week and containing articles on traffic matters.

Prince Salman

SHEIKH Mubarak Abdullah Al Ahmed hosted a lunch banquet in honour of Prince Salman Bin Abdul Aziz, governor of Riyadh region, and his accompanying delegation.

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Boodai Motors and Renault Celebrate Their First Year of Success



Boodai Motors and Renault, a partnership which became one year old today.

Boodai Motors took over the Renault Agency and successfully launched Renault again in the Kuwait market.

Within a year, Boodai Motors succeeded in re-establishing the name Renault as a technically sophisticated, reliable and powerful European car, in a very competitive market. Today Boodai Motors have three showrooms: Shuwailkh — Arab Gulf Street and Fahaheel, and a new Garage, with high technical standards.

On this occasion, Boodai Motors/Renault are launching a "Pick the right key" contest as a gift to oil showrooms visitors in addition to a complimentary gift. Key-holders will have the opportunity to try the key on a brand new Renault. If the car starts it will go to the respective key holder. Also, a free Carrier or Christian Dior watch is being presented with every purchase of a new Renault throughout the 1st Anniversary celebrations.

A visit to Renault's showroom and the chance to win a brand new Renault with Boodai Motors' compliments on their 1st Anniversary.

Singers captivate audience

Chopin and rockin' and foot-stomping

By Keith Wells

OPENING with a rather solemn piece of Chopin, played by June Stevenson, the full band roared into "Bat Out of Hell" and the Rock'n Romance show at the Buhayan Room of the Regency Palace Hotel was on its way. Personally, I'm not sure that Meat Loaf and Chopin go together too well, but at least the four Chopin piano pieces scattered throughout the programme gave everyone a chance to catch their breath.

Waltz

The rock numbers were great and show that the band, directed by June and Phil Thomas have improved greatly since their success in Jukebox Four last year. The playing now is much tighter and more controlled and the lead guitarist, Ammar Al Bini has developed a sharper tone which gives his playing much more of a cutting edge. Even so, he could occasionally do with being more aggressive and louder since he is sometimes in danger of being swamped by the rest of the band. When he does shine through, Ammar's playing has a lovely lyrical quality, especially evident on some of the Dire Straits numbers.

Star of the show, of course, is June Stevenson, who is a consummate musician, switching with ease from a Chopin Waltz



(L-R): Malcolm MacDonald, June Stevenson and Des Cross starring in Rock'n Romance.

to a breathtakingly lovely version of Elton John's "Candle in the Wind" or the classic "I'm Not in Love," which she sang with real feeling and expressiveness. She can rock with the best of them too, as she showed on the rip-roaring, foot-stomping version of "Hit Me With Your Best Shot" which had the crowd dancing in their seats, loving every minute.

Des Cross, the other lead singer, took a while to get warmed up, but after he turned in a



superb rendering of Rod Stewart's "Maggie May" he had no more problems with nerves and delighted the crowd with his scorching performance. On the two Stevie Nicks wood classics, "Gimme Some Lovin'" and "Keep on Running," Des was fabulous and his rousing version of Chuck Berry's "Rock'n Roll Music" was a marvellous finale to a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Before the show Phil Thomas said that they had had



severe problems with the piano, which had gone out of tune due to the humidity, but 40 minutes with a hair-dryer managed to cure the problem. Then, during the first half of the show on the first night, one of the speakers for the vocals kept cutting out, but it was a minor problem that was sorted out by the second half. However, I felt that the drums were a bit too loud compared to the rest of the band. Part of the problem is that the stage takes up a full third of the

space in the Buhayan Room and the show deserved a larger auditorium. However, these are all strictly minor quibbles. In the interval a long-term expat said: "We're so lucky to have such high quality musicians here in Kuwait." It's a sentiment with which I heartily agree. The band played with a fine combination of professional skill and amateur enthusiasm which was utterly infectious.

Highlights

One of the highlights of the show, for me, was Brian Mitchell's beautifully understated version of Dire Straits' "Romeo and Juliet." The vocal was touchingly delicate and was accompanied by some lovely guitar work. On the faster numbers, Malcolm MacDonald played some really rockin' sax giving a big band sound out of all proportion to the actual number of musicians.

The dancers, in contrast, were rather amateur and, apart from their final number, lacked conviction. Their hesitancy was in marked contrast to the musicians' skill and conviction. When June Stevenson really let her hair down on numbers like "Burn Down the Mission," nobody noticed the dancers much anyway, her performance is so electrifying. There are two more shows, for details see the What's On column.

Ramadan viewing on KTV 1

RAMADAN viewing would be the best this year, according to Badr Al Mudhaf, director of programmes at Kuwait Television. Admitting that it is "impossible to satisfy" all viewers, Al Mudhaf said: "We'll try to provide something to suit everyone's taste and interest, particularly during Ramadan."

Children's serials return this year after a two-year absence in Ramadan. Madinat Al Riyah — The Windy City — will be shown soon after iftar (breakfast) during Ramadan, expected to start in mid-April.

The Windy City is now being filmed. Ahmed Saleh, Khalid Al Obaid, Huda Hussain, Asmah Jafar and Abdul Rahman Al Aqal star.



Khalid Al Obaid.

A number of other serials are also under production for showing in Ramadan. These include Musafer bedoon Hawaiyya (A Traveller Without an ID), featuring Ghanem Al Saleh and Hayat Al Fahad; and Iza'j (Disturbance). Istisarat Ramadan (Ramadan Inquiries) is a religious serial

featuring interviews with Muslim scholars of the Awqaf Ministry.

The tradition of Ramadan contests will continue this year as well. This is normally the high spot of Ramadan programmes.

Apart from these several late night variety shows are in the pipeline. These will feature interviews with top Arab performers and singers.

The latest Arabic films and a number of plays will also be screened. Kuwait Television has been asked by viewers to show classic black and white Arabic films.

Al Mudhaf said: "We will try to accommodate them in our programme listings."



Abdul Rahman Al Aqal and Huda Hussain during the filming of The Windy City.

Hotel honours long-serving employees

THE management of Messilah Beach Hotel recently held a reception to honour its long-serving employees. Certificates and awards were presented to the employees by the hotel's General Manager Thomas Barlow.

The chief guests were Ali Al Ghanim Al Jahar, chairman, and Abdul Aziz Al Wazzan, deputy general manager, administration and finance, Kuwait Hotels Company.

The highlight of the evening was an entertainment programme presented by the hotel staff. A large number of invited guests, including hotel staff from different departments, attended the party.



Ali Al Ghanim Al Jahar presents a certificate to an employee as Thomas Barlow (second left) looks on.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Ghadi Gallery
Egyptian artist Magdi Kenawy is showing his latest collection of lithographs and prints at the gallery in Salmiya Complex. The exhibition is open daily from 9 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8 pm, until March 31.

Sultan Gallery
An exhibition of oil paintings by Pakistani artist Yasmeen Bhainia will be held at the gallery, Al Soor St., from March 28. It will be open daily from 9 am to 1 pm and 5 to 8 pm.

MUSIC

Rock'n Romance
Kuwait Players present Rock'n Romance, a rock show with a romantic touch, will be performed tonight, 8 pm, and every night until Wednesday, at the Regency Palace Hotel. Directed by June Stevenson and Phil Thomas. It features music by Eric Clapton, Dire Straits, Elton John, Chopin and others. For reservations call 5624175, after 2 pm, or 5745838.

Musical Nite
Funkada, a local music group, will hold Rang Trang, a musical nite, on March 24, 7.30 pm, at the Sharq Cooperative Society Hall. Entrance is by invitations only. Contact the organisers for details.

Upasana
Upasana will hold a music programme on April 7, 7.30

THEATRE

Kuwait Players
Kuwait players present "Waltz Until Dark," a suspense drama by Frederick Knott, directed by Mike Conden, starring Jennifer Gatland and Derrick Hicks. It will be performed at the Universal American School, Salwa, at 8 pm on March 28, 29, 30, 31. For reservations phone 5657749; 5332568.

SOCIAL

Flag-hoisting ceremony

A flag-hoisting ceremony will be held at 9 am on March 26 at the Bangladesh Embassy premises in Jahriya to mark the Independence and National Day of Bangladesh. All Bangladeshis are invited.

Get-acquainted social-gathering
All Bangladeshi computer professionals are invited to a get-acquainted social gathering. For details phone 2411610 (7 am to 1 pm); 4841748 (4 to 8 pm); 3714096 (4-8 pm).

May Queen

The May Queen will be crowned at a special event which will be held on May 16 at the Sheraton Hotel. Highlight of the evening will be a fashion show of clothes designed by Tapati Ray. Two local bands —



Jenny and Tony present jazz music and ballads in Maridian's Versailles Restaurant.

Stepping Stones and City Limits will provide entertainment. The event is being organised by the Kuwait Goans Association.

Weekend Club

The Club will host "Summer Queen '88" on the first day of Eid Al Fitr at the Regency Palace Hotel. The highlight of the evening will be the crowning of the Summer Queen '88 by last year's winner. Musical entertainment will be by Next of Kin and Top Ranks with Adolf performing latest numbers.

Filipino Get-together

The next "kumustahan" (get-together) will be held on Saturday, March 26, in the Church Hall. All Filipinos are invited. Free snacks will be served. Admission free.

Party for Volunteers

The Handicapped Society invites all volunteers to a tea party at the Plaza Hotel at 5 pm on Wednesday, March 23.

EDUCATION

Higher Education in UK Exhibition

Representatives from universities all over Britain are giving expert advice on courses and admissions procedures at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel. A selection of information on undergraduate and postgraduate study will be available. The exhibition is open today and on Wednesday from 4 to 8 pm.

SPORTS

E.M.A.C. Tournament

A tennis tournament for under-16s will be held from April 13 to 16 at the SAS Hotel. Participating teams are from Abu Dhabi, Oman, Damascus, American School of Kuwait, Universal American School, Kuwait English School and New English School. The tournament has been organised by E.M.A.C.

Mediterranean Activities Conference.)

Interscholar Knockout '88

The semi-finals of the Interscholar Knockout '88 takes place tonight. The Grand Final takes place on Wednesday on April 13. The event features student and teacher teams from Kuwait's schools in a series of exciting games. Barbecue dinner and beverages will be served by the poolside. Valuable prizes. For details contact the hotel.

Filipino hold Mini-Olympics

March 31 is the last date for submitting completed application for the Palarong Pilipino (mini-Olympics). Teams failing to submit entries will be disqualified. Final sports meeting to discuss arrangement of games will be held at 2 pm on April 8 at the Philippines Embassy. The games will be held from May 16. For further details contact Bong Melencio — 4877793.

Salcette United Whist Drive

Salcette United will hold a Whist Drive-cum-Tea Party for its members and guests on Friday, April 8, 3.30 pm at Ramada Al Salam Hotel. For details contact D'Costa — 2439000 ext 2537 and Agnello — 2460983.

Tivim Centre Football

Tivim Centre, Kuwait, will hold a seven-a-side football tournament on Thursday, March 25, at Al Souf Grounds. Draw will be held at 6.30 am. Play commences at 7 am. For details contact D'Mello — 2434634; Almeida — 4813892.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.30 World News via Satellite
- 3.35 Ihtal Al Mu'Laeh: cartoon serial
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 Magazine D'Aualite
- 4.25 Na'ayoun Sadran: part one; starring: Adel Afana, Abeer Essa, Rashida Dajani, Dawood Jalal. The story of two tribal families and how their rivalry affects the life of the entire tribe. Directed by Ahmad Duahis.
- 5.15 You and Your Health: Dr Salem Mohammad presents this local series on health care.
- 6.00 Songs
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.05 Afaq Al Fann: Art Horizon. Presented by Abdul Rasool Salaman.
- 7.35 Animal World: documentary
- 8.00 Hadith Al Usbooh: religious talk by Sheikh Ali Al Jassar.
- 8.15 Good Evening and Local News
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Pages from the History of Kuwait: prepared and presented by Saif Marzouk Al Shamlan.
- 10.50 Layali Al Hilmiya: Arabic serial, starring



Heart of the City, tonight on KTV 2.

ring Yahya Fakhrani, Firdous Abdul Hamid, Huda Sultan, Hussein Yusuf.

11.40 News Summary

11.45 World News via Satellite

12.15 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 3.30 Opening and Holy Quran
- 3.40 Cartoons
- 4.00 Live transmission of Ahmad Sports Day from K.O.C. grounds.
- 5.55 Rainhow Brite: an animated feature of young viewers.
- 6.30 Punkey Brewster: Cherry hides in an old refrigerator while playing hide and seek with Punkey and her friends. But their game ends abruptly as Cherry struggles to free herself.

- 7.00 Beyond 2000: reports on the fate of space ships; design of new electronic games; artificial eyes implants; and generating electricity from tidal waves.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 You and the Law: a local programme
- 8.50 Heart of the City: Detective Kennedy arrests a woman involved in drugs and trafficking.
- 9.40 Omni: Peter Ustinov presents this half-hour programme on "new frontiers." Tonight Ustinov discusses the use of old and new medical techniques in surgery — for instance acupuncture and lasers.
- 10.00 Tracey Ullman Show: three years after their separation, a husband returns to his wife asking for forgiveness.
- 10.30 TV Movie: "The Best of Salfordcrackers." An undercover policeman becomes an informant but is exposed just before a major robbery.
- 12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Aualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

English

- 0800 Easy Listening
- 0830 News
- 0840 Easy Listening
- 1000 Songs and Music
- 1330 News
- 1340 Easy Listening
- 1400 Classical Music
- 1600 Easy Listening
- 1700 Italian Hour
- 1800 Pops
- 2130 News
- 2145 Pops
- 2300 Indian Classical Hour
- 2300 Easy Listening
- 2400 Instrumental Listening

BBC World Services

- 0600 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Radio News
- 30 Best on Record.
- 0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
- 30 Short Story
- 45 The Unclaimed Promise (ex 29th)
- 0200 World News
- 09 Anniversary
- 15 Network UK
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 The World Today
- 30 John Peel
- 0400 News
- 45 Reflections
- 50 Financial News

Urdu

- 0900 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 New Ideas
- 40 Turning Over New Leaves (ex 29th The Wondrous Cross cont.)
- 45 The World Today
- 0600 News
- 30 Rock Salad
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 The Unclaimed Promise (ex 29th)
- 45 Network UK
- 0800 World News
- 09 Reflections
- 15 Health Matters (ex 29th Tech Talk)
- 30 Music on Record
- 0900 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 The World Today
- 30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
- 45 Capriccio (ex 29th The Seven Ages of Man)
- 1000 News Summary followed by Discovery
- 30 Sports International
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Waveguide (ex 29th The Wondrous Cross cont.)
- 30 Citizens
- 1200 Radio News
- 15 Multitrack 1: Top 20
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1300 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Network UK
- 45 Recording of the Week

Urdu

- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Beteen Qaul
- 1920 Songs
- 1935 Press Report
- 1940 Radio Club
- 2000 News
- 2015 Aaj ka Itikhab
- 2030 Learning Arabic
- 2040 Jahan Numa
- 2100 Closedown

FM Services

- MORNING
- 08.00 Opening
- 08.05 Songs and Music
- 08.10 Thoughts in Islam
- 08.20 Songs and Music
- 08.30 NEWS
- 08.40 Songs and Music
- 08.45 Daily Programme
- 09.00 Songs and Music
- 09.30 They Sold A Million
- 10.00 Our Press Today
- 10.05 Songs and Music
- 11.00 Closedown
- 13.30 NEWS on FM Service
- EVENING
- 21.00 Opening
- 21.02 In The Latin Mood
- 21.30 NEWS
- 21.45 Point of View
- 21.55 Songs and Music
- 22.00 Religious Programme
- 22.15 In The Groove
- 22.45 Daily Programme
- 23.00 Hit Special
- 23.30 Jazz in Action
- 24.00 Closedown

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Madinah Pharmacy
Abdullah Al Mubarak St.
Al Lulu Pharmacy
Dasmam Complex, Ahmed Al Jaber St.
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Qatami Pharmacy
Beirut St.
Salamiya and Rumathiyah
Al Qortuba Pharmacy
Beirut St.
Fahsheel and Ahmadi
Al Fulaj Pharmacy
Nr Safeway, Makkah St.
F'heel
Farwania
Al Jazira Pharmacy
Hmoud Sanwan Bldg., Main St.
Jahra
Al Noor Pharmacy
Abdul Aziz Nasrullah Bldg. Matafi St.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
White Apache
Starring: Sebastian, Nola Fonte
Al Sahmiya
Real Genius
Starring: William Anderson
Al Hamra
Welcome to 18
Starring: Christine Koffman
Drive-In
Rajul Didh Al Kanoon (Arabic)
Starring: Mahmood Yassin, Mirvat Ameen
Al Firdous
Jallianwala Bagh (Hindi)
Al Jeeb
Sukhe Thako (Bengali)
Sulabikhat
Jumpin' Jack Flash

Fahsheel Open-Air
Maang Bhoro Sajana (Hindi)
Al Fahsheel
Pray for Death
Al Jahra
Pumar Milan (Bengali)
Granada
Oridathu (Malayalam)
Ahmadi Drive-In
Al Marat Wal Kanoon (Arabic)

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.29 am
Zohr	11.55
Asr	3.23 pm
Maghreb	6.01
Isha	7.18

Germans elect new committee

MRS Nadia Al Duajj was re-elected president of the German-Speaking Cultural Association for the fifth-year running.

The association's elections were held on March 19 at the Kuwait Hilton Hotel to choose the new members of the committee.

The new vice-president is Anis Radloff. Other members of the newly elected committee are Dr Heidemann Wegener, Patricia Hunsdorf, Ilona Ritschel, Ulrike Muerz, Ula Reinhardt, Christine Hoerschner, Mrs Huber, Volker Luedersdorf, Manfred Deutsch, Werner Hoffmann.

The outgoing members of the committee are Ingrid Badstieber, Gaby Al Darmi, Heidi Hajaj, Annamare Hankir, Monica Al Khasshi, Ingrid Al Mishan, Rosemarie Bissada, Walter Kretschmar and Peter Schwarz.

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

A MAN'S true wealth is the good he does in this world
— Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) (570-632)

Rural revolt is budding in India

By Sheila Tefft

NEW DELHI: Across India's parched countryside, a rural revolt is budding.

The farmers' protest, popularly known as "peasant power," is a symptom of the growing economic ills bedeviling Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government. A three-year short-fall of vital monsoon rains has left this largely agricultural nation with strained food supplies and desperate water shortages.

Recently, thousands of farmers held a three-week sit-in at Meerut, 35 miles from here. With growing power and water shortages, mounting debt, and low prices, simmering discontent boiled over.

Prime Minister Rajiv refused to meet their demands. The farmers disbanded, but vowed not to pay taxes and to continue their fight. "We shall disregard whatever this government says and conduct our business ourselves," Mahendra Singh Tikait, the revolt's self-styled leader, told crowds.

Public spending to counter the effects of drought has pushed the government into the red. Prices of food, gasoline, railroad tickets, and telephones have jumped. In contrast to the euphoria surrounding Rajiv's victory in the 1984 elections, the country's double-digit inflation is growing. "These price increases are crazy," says schoolteacher Reena Sewak about the country's double-digit inflation. "They make you wonder if we're headed for a disaster instead of the 21st century."

Debt
According to the World Bank, however, India's economy is well-managed and its \$26 billion foreign debt is not out of control. But warning signals are flashing, economic observers say. In its new budget released last month, the government predicts the deficit for the coming fiscal year will jump by one-third to more than \$6 billion. Defence spending is mounting due to the war against Tamil militants in Sri Lanka which is costing the Indian government an estimated \$800,000 a day. The government plans to hike taxes to help cover the deficit.

Economic problems threaten to become political headaches if the summer monsoon rains fail again this year, economists say. About 75 per cent of India's people live in rural areas, and one-third of national output comes from agriculture.

Last year, the government was

able to tide over the summer's disaster by drawing on a 23-million-ton grain surplus. Since the 1960s, when India was haunted by famine and had to import mountains of food, the country has become self-sufficient, largely through "Green Revolution" technology.

But with food stocks dwindling, India may again have to import food if the dry spell continues. That could be a political disaster for Rajiv, who came to power in 1984 after his mother's assassination and faces fresh elections next year.

"If the economic crisis gets worse, the people won't be able to absorb it. We'll see political turmoil like that of the 1960s," says S.K. Ray, an economist who has written extensively about the country's droughts. "If we have another drought and another bad year, this government is doomed."

Indeed, farmers' ire has been rising in recent years as the cost of hybrid seeds, irrigation, and fertilisers — key components of the vaunted Green Revolution era — have outpaced the prices for crops.

Critics of the movement contend that the participants are rich farmers trying to win better subsidies and cheaper costs from the government. The farmers, who say they can't make ends meet during years of normal rainfall, contend they are under growing pressure from the drought.

Even harder hit are the farm labourers who are increasingly being forced off the land into the cities to find jobs.

Jabbar Singh, a 26-year-old worker, his wife, and children, left their native Rajasthan because there was no farm work. "The livestock were dying, and there wasn't enough drinking water," said Singh who is looking for a construction job in New Delhi. "I had to come here. There is nothing at home."

Political observers say Rajiv will have to move quickly to stem the agrarian unrest. The prime minister, whose government has been buffeted by charges of corruption and a string of election defeats, must retain his hold on key states in the north where the farmers' movement is picking up steam.

"The stability of rural society keeps India going," says Jaswant Singh, a political opponent of the Rajiv government.

"Whenever that stability is disturbed, the whole country is touched by the chaos," Singh says. The Christian Science Monitor News Service.

Prime Minister looking more confident and powerful than ever

Thatcher: a 20th century revolution

By Maureen Johnson

LONDON, (AP): Far from losing steam after nearly nine years in office, Margaret Thatcher is marching through her third consecutive term as prime minister looking more confident and powerful than ever.

The 62-year-old Conservative party leader has become such a fixture on the political scene, here and abroad, that at times she seems to be parodying the bossy, schoolmarmish image bestowed on her by her critics.

She'll let loose an outburst every so often — "I never did understand men," she complained after an argumentative European summit. She'll chide the United States about balancing its budget and badger her citizens about littering the streets.

She advocates a return to "Victorian values," supports the

restoration of the death penalty, has legislated curbs on the promotion of homosexual lifestyles and brandishes the Official Secrets Act with a vigour that makes many critics fear for the freedom of the British media.

Revolution

Now, eight months into a fresh five-year term, Thatcher has governed continuously for longer than any other British prime minister in the 20th century. In the process, she says, she has wrought a revolution. It's a claim that not even her severest critics totally dismiss.

"She has taught us that you don't win... unless you have a clear ideological position," says Roy Hattersley, deputy leader of the Socialistic Labour Party, which went down to its third successive election defeat by Thatcher last June. "We've made authoritarianism look respectable — or, rather, she has."

As the Thatcher revolution

surges on with shake-ups in state education, housing and the once-sacrosanct National Health Service, authoritarianism is the most frequent charge against her.

But polls indicate that Thatcher retains her trump card: a feeling among the United Kingdom's 56 million people that, whether or not they like her policies, no one is offering anything more credible. The disarray in the left-of-centre opposition gives her an unassailable parliamentary majority on just 42 per cent of the popular vote.

Doubts

"She, more powerfully than anyone else, has articulated the moral doubts and yearnings of her age," wrote Peter Jenkins, a leading liberal analyst, in his recent book, "Mrs Thatcher's Revolution."

"For what people wanted, surely, was an end to decline,

release from the corrosive sense of failure, a government which governed and a country to begin to be proud of once again."

Thatcher feels her populist, anti-elitist instincts are "absolutely in tune with how people feel... not just in their pockets, but in their bones, in their hearts and in their minds. Deep in their instincts they find what I am saying and doing right."

Curbed

She attributes it all to what she learned from her father, Alfred Roberts, a small-town grocer.

"My policies are based not on some economic theory, but on things that I and millions like me were brought up with," she has said.

"An honest day's work for an honest day's pay, live within your means, put a nest egg by for a rainy day, pay your bills on time,

support the police."

Such is the message of her revolution.

Her laws have curbed the labour unions and nurtured a new breed of entrepreneurs who, like Thatcher, are outsiders to the establishment.

Among the 200 richest Britons, self-made chain store billionaires, computer whiz kids and property tycoons outnumber the landed aristocracy and other old money 2-to-1, according to Money Magazine, a British publication.

Unemployment is down from a peak 12 per cent two years ago to 9.2 per cent, lower than West Germany and France. Inflation hovers around 4 per cent, down from more than 20 per cent in the early Thatcher years.

But not everybody is better off, and much remains unchanged in Thatcher's Britain.

A stubbornly class-conscious society survives with waiting lists

for expensive, private high schools swelled by the children of the newly prosperous.

People's accents still matter and are discussed — including Thatcher's because it sounds acquired.

Nine years after a woman became prime minister British women are not noticeably better off. They still do most of the boring low-paid jobs and earn an average of £219.40 (\$386).

According to a survey published in February by the state-funded Equal Opportunities Commission, women comprise 60 per cent of bank employees but only 2 per cent of the administrative and managerial staff. Thatcher has never had a woman in her cabinet.

Internationally, Thatcher has turned post-empire Britain into what commentator Brian Walden calls "a medium-sized power — with clout."



People and policies on the line as China's Parliament meets

By Jim Abrams

BEIJING, (AP): Almost 3,000 political elite will gather at the Great Hall of the People on Friday to set the pace and name the overseers of China's economic and political reforms.

The annual meeting of the National People's Congress, China's parliament, also may reveal how deep the divisions are between Communist Party chief Zhao Ziyang and acting Premier Li Peng.

Zhao, 69, the protégé of semi-retired senior leader Deng Xiaoping, is the champion of rapid reform and is willing to take risks to put China's economy on a more market-oriented basis. Li, 59, is regarded as a cautious technocrat who supports the reforms but would limit their scope and slow down their implementation.

Zhao was the star at a major party congress last fall that established guidelines for China into the 21st century. At this congress, however, Li will be on centre-stage, delivering a key report at the opening of the three-week session that will define the nation's immediate goals.

Inflation
Li is expected to sound several conservative themes, including the need for the government to pay more attention to the countryside following three disappointing grain harvests and the belief that controlling double-digit inflation must take precedence over reform of China's inefficient pricing system.

Analysts also will watch how

much support Li gives Zhao's ambitious proposal to turn factories along China's coast into processing centres for exports. The plan is controversial because it would allow coastal regions to develop at a far faster pace than the interior.

Open disagreement between Zhao and Li is unlikely.

"Five years ago you could talk about reformists and conservatives," said one Asian diplomat. "But today nobody would come out against reform."

The first session of the 7th National People's Congress — each congress sits for five years — will be one of the huiest and most important in years. It will confirm Li as premier, replace Li Xian'an as president, and appoint the vice-president, vice-premiers, congress chairman and new heads of various ministries.

Amend

The 2,970 delegates also will approve government reorganising in which several ministries are to be merged or eliminated, amend the constitution to legalise private businesses and the transfer of land-use rights, and pass several major laws.

Most important is the industrial enterprise law, which gives legal definition to the government's attempts to separate the functions of the owner — the state — and the manager of businesses.

The law gives factory managers the right to run their plants without undue interference from government and party officials, while taking responsibility for profits and losses.

The law, which has been rev-

ised 13 times since it first was suggested in 1980, is deemed a necessary forerunner to a proposed law that would outline terms for bankruptcies.

The congress also will vote on whether to make southern China's Hainan Island, a focus of Zhao's coastal development plans, a new province. And it will deliberate legislation on foreign-funded ventures, state secrets and village governments to replace the defunct communes.

Among personnel changes, part of an ongoing campaign by Deng Xiaoping to rejuvenate the nation's aging leadership, several veteran conservatives will step aside while other go-slow reformists will gain important posts.

Influence

Li, named acting premier when Zhao was appointed head of the party last fall, will take over the post held for 27 years by his foster father, Chou En-Lai. He also will head the commission for restructuring the economy, increasing his influence in determining the course of reforms.

Li Xian'an, 78, will end his five-year term in the largely ceremonial post of president. He is likely to replace Deng Ying-chao, 84, Chou En-Lai's widow, as chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, an advisory body.

Likely to be the next president is Yang Shangkun, 80, a senior military officer, member of the party politburo and friend to Deng Xiaoping.

Yao Yilin, a respected but somewhat conservative economist, is slated to head a powerful economic planning commission to be created out of two existing commissions. Yao, 71, is expected to remain one of five vice-premiers.

The new defence minister, replacing 78-year-old Zhang Aiping, is expected to be Qin Jiwei, 74, former Beijing military region commander and a politburo member.

Resign

Peng Zhen, an 86-year-old conservative who has tried to remove the congress' rubber-stamp image in his five years as chairman, will resign. Vice-Premier Wan Li is considered a likely successor.

The Communist Party remains the source of all major policies and personnel moves, but the congress now has the power and will to debate, delay or revise legislation.

Among the deputies, chosen by provincial people's congresses, one-third are non-party members; 15 per cent come from China's ethnic minorities, 9 per cent from the People's Liberation Army;

By Richard Sale

WASHINGTON, (UPI): The United States and the Soviet Union, anxious to ensure an orderly Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, are sharing data on radical mujahedeen factions viewed as a threat to a settlement, administration officials said.

US and Soviet teams also are discussing other ways "to achieve a non-aligned Afghanistan" following a Soviet pullout, these sources said.

Ironically, such manoeuvring may mean curbing US support for the same Islamic rebel factions the administration has so staunchly relied on during the 8 1/2-year-old guerrilla war against Soviet occupation forces, they said.

"We are not making a deal behind anyone's back, nor are we exploiting differences between the mujahedeen, but we are talking with the Soviets about the rebels, an administration source said."

A US official said the administration's first priority is to ensure a Soviet pullout, and it places less importance on the shape of Afghanistan's future government.

Road-block

Intelligence sources said Islamic elements of the mujahedeen are considered the major road-block to a settlement with the Soviets, who say they want to keep the puppet Afghan government in power during a withdrawal to prevent chaos.

Neighbouring Pakistan also is pushing for a withdrawal — prior to a Soviet withdrawal — of a coalition interim government that includes the Islamic, US analysts said.

The Pakistanis have their own fears that the radical rebels will otherwise incite a civil war and prevent five million Afghan refugees from returning home, these sources said.

They said the Moscow government also has long-term worries that Islamic fundamentalism will spread into the Soviet Union's Central Asian republics, which border Afghanistan and are inhabited by fast-growing Muslim sects.

The Soviets fear such an Islamic surge would heighten chances of internal unrest and perhaps endanger Russian national unity.

A Congressional staffer, who requested anonymity, also said that a recent group of American visitors to Moscow was "impressed by the degree to which the Russians are alarmed by the

thought of an aroused Islamic constituency."

Four of the seven Pakistan-based groups of mujahedeen guerrillas in Afghanistan are radical fundamentalists who either sympathise with the government of Iran or openly are urging an Islamic revolution once the Soviets leave, administration officials said.

The other three groups, also Islamic, are "traditionalists" who derive their power from tribal and village ties, State Department officials said.

The traditional mujahedeen have sought to regain power they enjoyed before the 1979 Soviet invasion. But the fundamentalists now are militarily stronger, primarily because of covert aid from the United States, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

State Department officials said the administration faces a dilemma because the radicals could effectively block the traditionalists' attempts to recover their standing. Yet most US military aid for the rebel war has gone to the more effective Islamic elements.

Shift

"By portraying the (radical) rebels as freedom fighters, the Reagan administration has painted itself into a corner," one State Department analyst said. "Many of these radicals are bandits."

A CIA source, speaking of the rebels, confirmed a shift in the US position, said, "we want to see some groups fed to other groups" — intelligence terminology for neutralising undesirable elements.

A State Department official took a softer stance.

"Obviously there are some people we would find it easier to deal with (after a Soviet withdrawal) than others," he said.

To facilitate reaching an accord with the Soviets, the United States is trying to forge a temporary alliance among the rebel factions, despite their differences, the official said. He said US officials are relying on the Pakistani government to mediate between the various factions.

Asked about the US-Soviet discussions about the mujahedeen, a State Department spokesman declined comment on grounds it is an intelligence matter.

Several administration specialists said they feel the Soviets' fear of a Khmeini-type of government in Kabul is misplaced.

The circumstances in Iran and Afghanistan are very different, he said.

Soviet-Yugoslav declaration

Questions over Moscow's intentions

By Patricia Koza

DUBROVNIK, Yugoslavia, (UPI): A joint Soviet-Yugoslav declaration released during Mikhail Gorbachev's first trip to Yugoslavia raises some critical questions about Soviet intentions in eastern Europe.

The declaration, released in this unique resort city of stone and light as Gorbachev and his entourage flew back to Moscow Friday, reaffirmed the principles of sovereignty and non-interference in language that could have major ramifications in the East Bloc.

"Proceeding from the conviction that no one has a monopoly over the truth, the two sides declare that they have no pretensions of imposing their concepts of social development on anyone," said the 12-page document.

The two sides pledged "mutual respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, equality and non-interference in internal affairs in any form what-

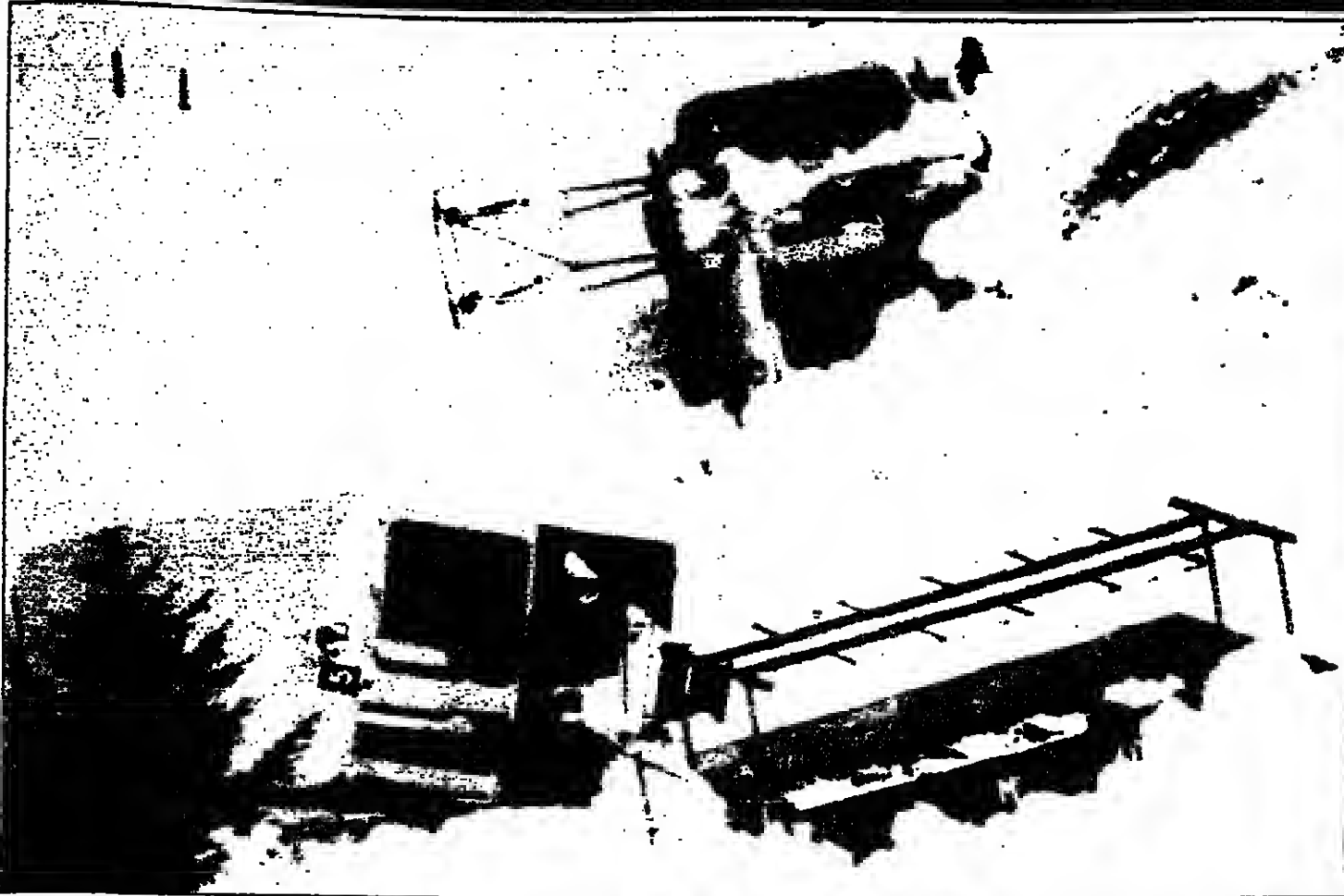
soever," it said.

Such language would seem to preclude another intervention such as the Soviet invasions of Hungary in 1956 or Czechoslovakia in 1968 to protect Soviet interests — policy that drew Yugoslavia back toward the bloc.

Since it was expelled from the Soviet bloc in 1948, Yugoslavia has jealously guarded its status as an independent, non-aligned communist state finding its own path in socialism. Gorbachev's five-day trip to Yugoslavia was in part to investigate the successes — and failures — of the Balkan nations' independent path to socialism.

Draft
Yugoslav sources said they were originally presented with a very ideological Soviet draft of the document, but that the Soviet negotiators quite willingly threw out much of the turgid language and acceded to specific Yugoslav concerns.

One source said the entire package was "wrapped up" by March 2 — more than two weeks before Gorbachev's visit.



A TRAIN wrecked by an avalanche lies in the snow on Sunday. Despite being full of passengers there were no injuries. (Reuter wirephoto)



DR MUBARAK AWAD, a Palestinian non-violence activist who faces deportation from Israel, in his office today in Arab East Jerusalem during an interview with Reuters, said the more pressure Israel puts on the Palestinians the better for their 15-week-old uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. (Reuter wirephoto)



A YOUTH raises a placard saying 'Hitler and Sharon are sama. End to the modern imperialism' in an anti-Israeli rally in Istanbul on Sunday. (Reuter wirephoto)



A WOMAN outside Christ King church (left) holds a sign that says, 'USA created monster Noriega. To get rid of him is USA problem,' during a small anti-government rally after mass inside the church on Sunday. (Right), a Panamanian student passes pro-opposition leaflets to passengers on a bus in Panama City. Military leaders have reslated pressure from the US to leave Panama. (Reuter wirephoto)



AN elderly Masai woman casts her vote in today's general elections; the first in five years. The woman was voting at the Kissam's Trading Centre, about a half hour from Nairobi. (Reuter wirephoto)



SERGEANT Pile from the Seventh Infantry Division in Fort Ord, California, repairs the slingshot of one of the Honduran children who came to watch military manoeuvres with Honduran troops at Jamastran, 18 miles from the Nicaraguan border on March 20, in the Honduran interior. (Reuter wirephoto)



WEST GERMAN Chancellor Helmut Kohl (right) has a laugh and a drink of water as he and Baden-Wuerttemberg Premier Lothar Spaeth (left) hold a press conference yesterday. Spaeth and his Christian Democrats barely hung on to a clear majority in the state elections yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)



THOUSANDS of Sandinista supporters danced in the streets during an all night vigil Sunday night in Managua to be ready to cheer the Sandinista delegation when it left yesterday for ceasefire talks in South Nicaragua. Militant slogans such as 'Contras, surrender or perish,' were the theme. (Reuter wirephoto)



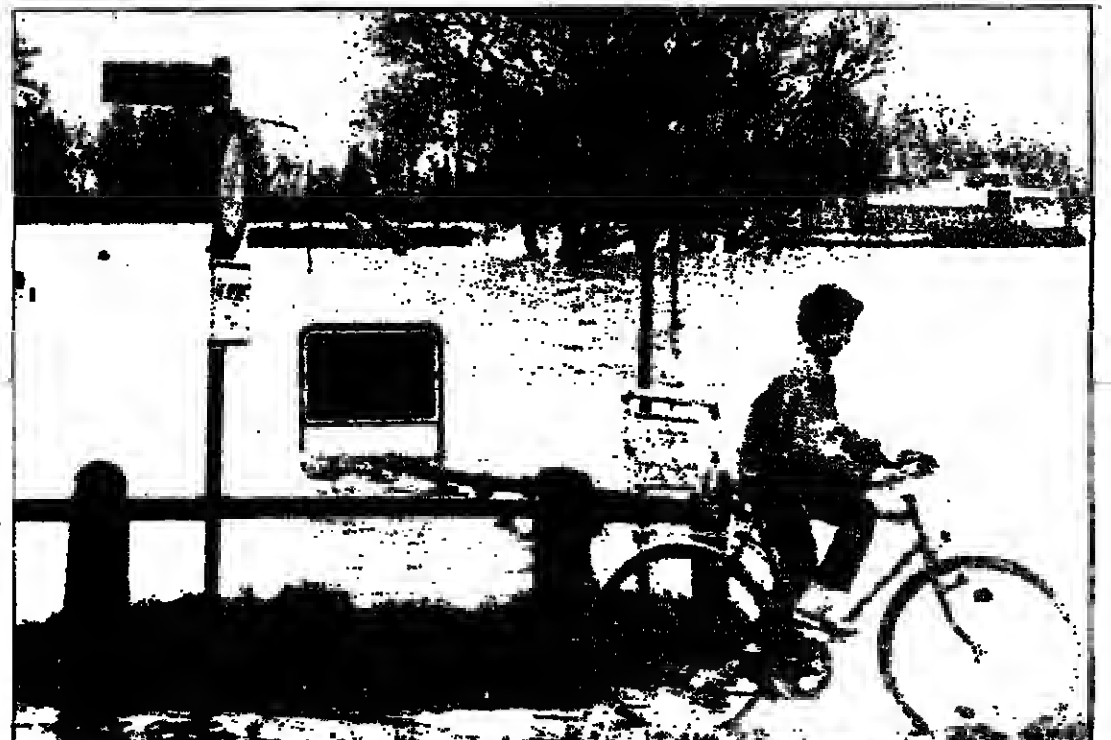
THOUSANDS of local nuclear power plant workers gather in front of the plant during an outdoor meeting yesterday. Workers are protesting proposals to close the Montalto di Castro plant in Italy. (Reuter wirephoto)



SALVADORAN President Jose Napoleon Duarte votes in San Salvador on Sunday during the mayoral and deputy elections. This is the fifth time elections have been held in El Salvador during its eight-year-old civil war. (Reuter wirephoto)



THIS vehicle was destroyed by a car bomb near a movie theatre in the Escalon Colony just south of San Salvador on Saturday. One person was injured in the blast, one of a series detonated around the Salvadoran capital by alleged urban commandos. (Reuter wirephoto)



A CYCLIST passes by the Dusseldorf-Urdenbach ferryboat sign on the Rhine. The water level on the Rhine is slowly nearing its normal level but the mooring of this ferryboat is still under the water level. The Rhine was opened to traffic this morning. (Reuter wirephoto)

Egypt asks Lord Carnarvon to give up recently discovered artifacts

Return our heritage or else...

By Mimi Mann

CAIRO, Egypt (AP): Egypt hopes a touch of persuasion can convince the grandson of the man who financed the Tutankhamun expedition to return more than 300 artifacts stashed in the family castle.

Otherwise, said Culture Ministry officials handling the case, expect legal fireworks.

"We can find no record these pieces left Egypt legally," said Zahi Hawass, archaeological adviser for the Culture Ministry. "These items are a part of our heritage. No one can refuse us the right to ask for their return."

Mohammed Salmawy, the ministry's undersecretary of state for foreign cultural relations, agreed.

"These artifacts complete a certain collection we have, and at this moment we're in the first stages of deciding the correct steps to take," he said. "They're not Liz Taylor's diamonds, but they're part of a necklace."

Several ministry officials have spent much of their time working on recovery of the artifacts since the Times of London disclosed their existence this month. Culture Minister Farouk Hosni has vowed to get them back from the Seventh

Earlier this month, the Times of London disclosed a sensational discovery: more than 300 ancient Egyptian artifacts stashed for 60 years in the family castle of the man who financed the Tutankhamun expedition. Now the Egyptian government is hoping that Lord Carnarvon, owner of the castle, may be persuaded gently to return Egypt's heritage, otherwise a long, legal battle may ensue.

Earl of Carnarvon.

Lord Carnarvon's grandfather, the Fifth Earl, financed the 1922 expedition that resulted in Egyptology's most famous discovery, the gold-filled, almost undisturbed tomb of the young Pharaoh Tutankhamun.

The dispute over ownership began after the times, which 65 years ago hought exclusive rights to Egyptologist Howard Carter's discovery, published photographs of some of the newly found relics. They ranged from a painted wooden face of Amneophis III, Tutankhamun's grandfather — to a delicate faience figure of the goddess Isis taken from a mummy's wrappings, outstretched wings spread in her classic pose of protection to a jewellery case with semiprecious stones and amethyst scarabs inside.

Salmawy said in an interview that Youssef Sharara, Egypt's ambassador in London, has talked with Lord Carnarvon about the items. He characterized the atmosphere as "civil, perhaps not friendly, but there is no friction."

He said even though the government is making no threats, "we are in no way relinquishing any rights we have to the artifacts. If these civil contacts don't work, we're ready to resort to a legal way what I'm not at liberty now to divulge. But at this stage, things are not escalating."

As the tale appeared in The Times, the story of the missing Carnarvon cache smacks of Agatha Christie: an aging family hunker leads the "astounded" grandson of a treasure seeker to a hoard secreted behind the cupboards.

Just as in any good mystery, the ending is yet to come.

But the case has dampened the magical moment that spell-bound generations of romantics, who imagined what it was like for Carter and his financial backer Lord Carnarvon to peer into the riches-laden afterworld

of the boy Pharaoh.

Robbers entered the tomb in southern Egypt's valley of the Kings Necropolis at least twice in antiquity, but it represented more than almost any other tomb the glories of Egypt's pharaonic past. Tourists now file past its golden remnants of past splendour in Cairo's Egyptian museum.

An American Egyptologist in Cairo said he thinks most of the new Carnarvon collection is little more than junk. Salmawy said it's difficult to judge before seeing the collection but that every piece has historical and cultural value.

"Even so-called junk is a national treasure," he said. "Let's face it, any of these items is junk in relation to what we have in the Egyptian museum, but we want to be able to study each artifact."

"We've just seen a few examples in print in The Times."

Salmawy said Egypt made three initial requests to Lord Carnarvon. "We want a complete list of the items because Lord Carnarvon claims he has documents to prove they were taken legally out of Egypt. We



Lord Carnarvon at Highclere castle with one of the treasures, an alabaster jar dating from the reign of King Ramses II.

want to see the documents he has, and we want him to allow an Egyptian delegation to decide what the artifacts are," he said.

"I pity Lord Carnarvon if all this fuss is mostly about so-called junk."

Last week the English peer was quoted as saying: "I don't expect any serious claim to be made by the Egyptian government as this could involve the major part of my grandfather's collection, which is in the Metropolitan Museum of New

York."

Last week, Cairo's state-owned newspaper Al-Ahram published what it said was a brief interview with Lord Carnarvon.

The report said he told the interviewer he would keep the artifacts at his family's Hampshire estate, Highclere castle. Asked if he would sell the pieces to the New York museum as the other pieces were sold, he said: "I will not sell to the Metropolitan Museum or to any other quarter."



Miniature vessels, model tools and blue faience plaques found undisturbed at the tomb of Amenophis III.

Hieroglyphics found in Mexico

By Norman Hammond

ONE of the most important hieroglyphic inscriptions ever found in the New World has come to light in Mexico.

Dating to the second century AD, it has more than 400 signs in an early script, including two precise dates to the Maya calendar, and the figure of a richly-dressed ruler in an elaborate headdress.

The inscription was found late last year at La Mojarra, in the coastal state of Veracruz, on a large stone slab which turned up in a river bed. Now in the Xalapa Museum, the slab is nearly eight feet high and four feet wide, and more than half of one face is taken up by the inscription.

The rest of it is occupied by the standing figure of a man, facing towards the columns of writing. He wears large, round ear-ornaments and a headdress with a great monster mask, with long feathers streaming from the back. The ear-flares and three plaques worn on his belt represent jade, the most precious substance known in ancient Mexico.

The style of the headdress and the powerfully carved face of the man, whose attire shows him to be a ruler, are similar to a monument from the ancient city of Kaminaljuyu, in Guatemala, 400 miles to the east in the territory of the Maya civilisation.

Both this monument, Kaminaljuyu Stela 11, and the fragmentary Stela 10, had been dated by archaeologists to the early centuries AD, but no exact dates were known because the only inscription, on Stela 10, is undeciphered.

The La Mojarra stela has two dates in what is called the Long Count, a Maya calendar beginning in 3114 BC. The earlier is about 13 years before the later, which in terms of the Christian calendar dates to July AD 156.

Confirmation of the date comes from a small carving in the Smithsonian Institute in Washington DC, known as the Tuxtla statuette: the human figure with its duck-billed mask has been in the museum since early this century, and was

found not far from La Mojarra in the Tuxtla Mountains of Veracruz. The statuette bears a date in the same style, which has been translated as the equivalent of March AD 162.

The Tuxtla figure also has a hieroglyphic inscription, which until now has been unique in style and remains unread. One of the things exciting scholars in the field of ancient writing systems is that the La Mojarra inscription is in the same script and with many of the same signs.

There are more than 400 individual hieroglyphs, arranged in 21 columns which begin above the ruler's head and extend the entire height of the slab in front of him, making this the longest early inscription known from the ancient civilisations of Mexico.

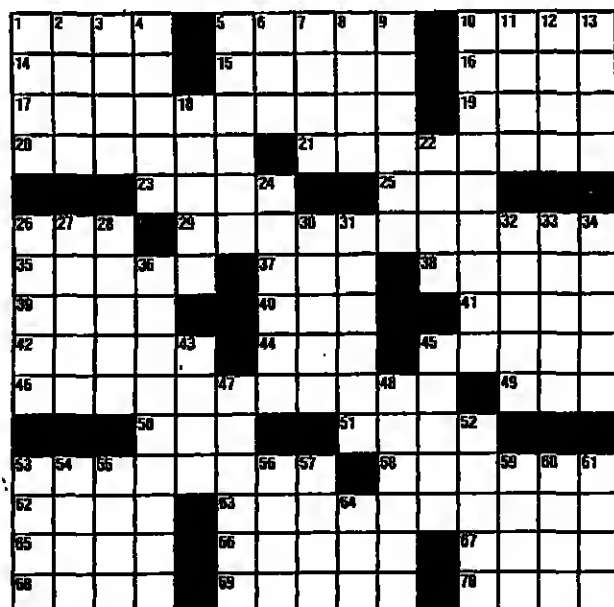
Although it cannot yet be read, its overall similarity to Maya monuments from the area just east of Veracruz suggests that it will contain a genealogy of the ruler and events in his reign such as conquests and alliances.

One of the two dates, of AD 143 and 156, may well refer to his accession. The other could indicate his birth or recognition as heir, at least one famous Maya king, Pacal of Palenque, succeeded to the throne at the age of 12, although this was unusually young and his mother had already acted as regent for some time.

Until now, only short inscriptions, mainly on portable objects such as the Tuxtla statuette, have been known from this Preclassic period of ancient Mexico: the La Mojarra stela shows that a tradition of public monumental art, equal in its urge to inform to that of the later Classic Maya, already existed in Veracruz.

Whether this means that the Maya cultural tradition formerly extended further west, or whether the Maya obtained their ideas from their neighbours, is a topic that will be hotly debated when Professor Fernando Winfield Capitane, director of the Xalapa Museum, presents the inscription at a conference in Texas.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Mary had one
 - Town or village
 - Long story
 - Anne Nichols' hero
 - De Valera of Ireland
 - Moslem title
 - Scofflaw's dread
 - Back of the neck
 - Showers frigidly
 - Outlines
 - "The Bridge of San — Rely"
 - Caviar
 - up (angry)
 - World Series winning manager: 1980
 - Linda Lavin TV series
 - Long period
 - Historic city in Alabama
 - Gray wolf
 - Spanish nobelman
 - Gilded
 - Suppose
 - Wildbeest
 - Panel piece
 - Triple Crown winner: 1977
 - Neighbour of Iraq: Abbr.
 - 50 like's command
 - Weather word
 - Obedient
 - Sops
 - Frigid
 - House plant
 - Story
 - Bombard and nameakes
 - Small musical
 - Celbity
 - Feats of courage
 - Olla, a.g.
- DOWN**
- Youths
 - Explorator Tasman
 - Great source of supply
 - Carpenter's tool
 - Iran, formerly
 - Place for experiments, for short
 - Andy's friend
 - up (devisa)
 - Penetrates
 - Most straightforward
 - Oriental
 - Stare in wonder
 - College town in Iowa
 - Musical composition
 - Clothes
 - Type of hammer
 - Rings of light
 - Emulate Romeo and Juliet
 - Shinbone
 - Fish-eating
 - Invalidates
 - Historic island in New York Bay
 - Dickinson of poetry
 - Consumer activist
 - Vier
 - Mies Kait
 - Bound by oath
 - along (moved clumsily)
 - Decorate with raised patterns
 - Emulates
 - Emulates Olivier
 - Castia protection
 - Scat singer of note
 - Traditional knowledge
 - Sailing girl
 - Emcee Parks
 - Ashtabula's lake
 - Winter sight
 - Small amount

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

SLEO TAINTE EPIC
AERO IRENE NANA
FAIRHAIRREDGIRLS
ENE ARES ASSET
SEAS ARMLETS
OWLETS AGAME
MAAM PLANO SAT
ALLSFAIRINLOVE
REO PAINS ARIA
SALLE CARESS
RECURLS BALK
ERECT SARD DAS
FAIRANDPLEASANT
ISLE OBESE ANTI
TESS RADAR PIER

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
LADY LEADS CAVENDISH CLUB

North-South vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ A 8 6
♥ Q 10
♦ J 10 8 7
♣ A K 4 3

WEST
♠ 5 4 2
♥ J 9 8 3
♦ K 2
♣ Q J 9 6

EAST
♠ Q 10 9 7
♥ K 7 5 2
♦ 3
♣ 10 8 7 5

SOUTH
♠ K J 3
♥ A 6 4
♦ A Q 9 6 5 4
♣ 2

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
Pass	1 ♦	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4 NT
Pass	6 ♦	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Five of ♣

A bastion of male chauvinism has fallen! New York's bridge club of renown, the Cavendish Club, has elected its first woman president, Mrs. Claire Tornay.

A tournament player of considerable skill and a former national titleholder, Mrs. Tornay sat South on this deal from a recent tournament. North's single diamond raise was strong and forcing, and South's jump to four diamonds, by partnership agreement, was Key-Card Blackwood, in which the king of

trumps counts as an ace. When she learned that one key card was missing, Mrs. Tornay settled in the small slam.

West led a top-of-nothing spade, solving declarer's problem in that suit. At first glance it might seem that the fate of the contract hinged on the trump finesse. However, declarer realized that a strip and end play, combined with the possibility of dropping a singleton king of trumps, offered a better chance.

She captured the queen of spades with the king and cashed the ace of trumps in the hope of felling the king. When the monarch failed to appear, declarer cashed the high clubs and ruffed a club in hand, crossed to the ace of spades and ruffed another club. The jack of spades was cashed to complete the strip of the black suits, and declarer exited with a trump.

Whichever defender held the king of diamonds would be forced to return a heart to avoid giving a ruff-sluff. Had that defender heeded East, declarer would simply have had to hope that he was leading away from the king of hearts. As it was, West shifted to a heart, declarer was faced with a nasty guess. We might have been inclined to play dummy's queen, but women's intuition triumphed—South inserted the ten from the table and, when East produced the king, the slam was home.



"I take it we're turning right."

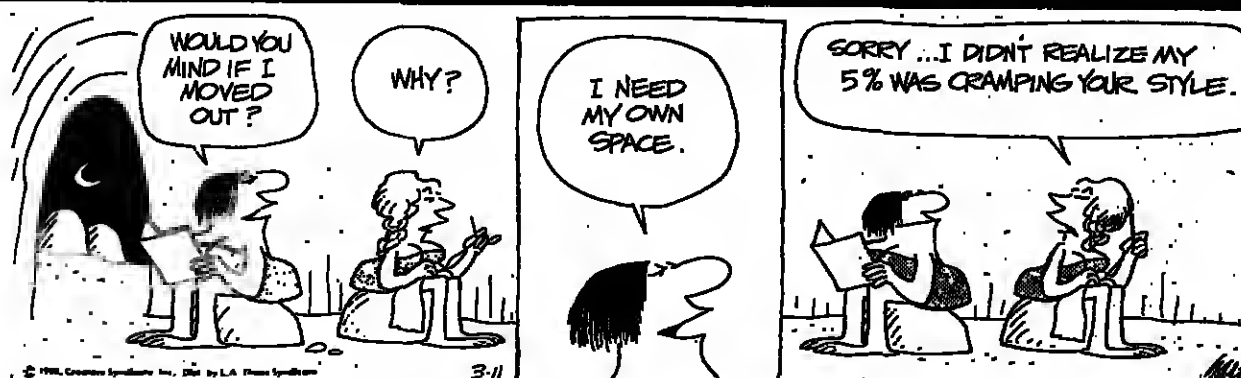
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will feel a lot more like your old self. You should make sure you can control your reactions. Try not to be in too great a hurry. Be a little more moderate.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Make sure you allow enough time for reading. Think just a little longer before you act. Do not put all your eggs into one basket. Be grateful.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You should not do things by halves. Take greater care about a personal matter. Do not allow success to go to your head. Be more alert.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You should make sure you do not exceed any speed limits. Try not to leave anything half undone. You should not take anything for granted just now. Be more reliable.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You should do your best to control your reactions. You will have something to be pleased with, but not about. Listen carefully to what others are saying. Be fair.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You should not try to evade your responsibilities. Look more on the bright and positive side of things. Do not rely on others to do things for you. Be more generous.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You will tend to spend too much time attending to secondary matters. Try not to get involved in what does not really concern you. Avoid making a nuisance of yourself. Be a little more affectionate.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You will be able to make a few changes for the better. Make sure you do not take too much for granted. You will be able better to enjoy what you are doing. Be a little more patient.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

At first you will be rather nervous but later you will calm down. Avoid allowing your resentments to cloud your judgment. Beware of negative influences. Be less poudorous.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

Things will take longer than you had anticipated. You should not think quite so much of and about yourself. You will be able to make a few changes for the better. Be cordial.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

Avoid taking on more commitments than you can really cope with. You should not promise to do something knowing that you cannot really do so. Try to maintain an open mind. Be less obstinate.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You will tend to spend too much time on some secondary matter. You should not believe everything you hear. Avoid acting on impulse or on the basis of guesswork. Be a little more objective.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Japan joins World Bank in financing Indian projects

WASHINGTON, March 21, (AP) The Export-Import Bank of Japan yesterday added a credit of approximately \$450 million to \$851 million worth of World Bank loans earlier provided for three thermal power and transmission projects in India.

A World Bank announcement said the 62-billion yen cofinancing agreement signed with the World Bank provided united funds, enabling the projects to import equipment from any country.

The three developments covered by the new cofinancing agreement are the second Ramagundam project, which has a \$300 million World Bank loan, the second Farakka project, supported with a \$300.8 million World Bank loan, and the Rihand transmission project, which has \$250 million in World Bank financing.

The announcement said it was the third cofinancing agreement between the World Bank and Japan's Exim Bank under Tokyo's promise of united loans to Asian countries.

Ali Khan in Riyadh

RIYADH, March 21, (Kuna): Pakistani State Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources Chaudhri Nasir Ali Khan arrived here last night on an official visit to Saudi Arabia.

Ali Khan, in an arrival statement to Saudi Press Agency, said his visit comes within exchanged visits between the two countries' officials to promote bilateral relations, which he described as cordial and strong in all fields.

Thriving industry cuts UAE dependence on oil

DUBAI, March 21, (Reuters): The glittering cities of the UAE may be sitting on top of one of the biggest oil lakes on earth, but they are not resting on their economic laurels.

Undeterred by the fierce Iran-Iraq war raging across the Gulf, cargo ships through bustling ports, foreign trade delegations pack hotels and factories churn out an increasingly wide variety of goods.

A senior official of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (Adnoc) warned this month that the oil boom years of 1977-1983, which made the country one of the richest per head in the world, may never return.

Production
But the UAE had long ago taken the message to heart. Industrial production, almost non-existent in the early 1970s, is an important sector of the economy and grew eight per cent a year between 1981 and 1986 according to the Emirates Industrial Bank.

Credit fuelling the private sector stood at an all-time high of \$10.8 billion at the end of October 1987, against \$9.7 billion a year earlier, a Dubai Chamber of Commerce report said.

Government efforts to reduce dependence on the oil sector are "reaping rich dividends", it said. UAE oil income rose to \$8.8 billion in 1987 from seven billion

Opec can overcome market upset

Oil prices will rebound: Nazer

ABU DHABI, March 21, (UPI): Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Hisham Nazer said today world oil prices would rebound if Opec states adhered to their output quotas and refrained from offering price discounts in a weak oil market.

"Opec at present is passing through the same circumstances it experienced during the same period of last year," Nazer was quoted as saying by the state-run Saudi Press Agency.

But, he added, "there is nothing that would prevent it from overcoming them (circumstances) again this year."

Excessive production by producers inside and outside

the 13-member Opec, a mild winter and price discounting have caused a sharp decline in world oil prices during the first quarter of this year.

Prices
Prices have been fluctuating within a \$13 to \$15 a barrel range, compared with Opec's official benchmark of \$18 a barrel.

The Saudi minister, whose country is the world's largest oil exporter and Opec's dominant power, did not indicate whether he supported calls for an emergency meeting of the organisation to stabilise the market.

Oil industry sources said they were awaiting a "major announcement" by Opec's current

president, Rilwanu Lukman of Nigeria tomorrow, which they expected to include measures to prop up falling prices.

The next ordinary meeting of the organisation is scheduled in Vienna for June 25.

Nazer said a key to a return to a balance between supply and demand was a strict adherence to production quotas and an end to price discounting.

Stability

However, in an evident call for non-Opec producers to contribute to oil market stability, Nazer said Saudi Arabia was in "constant consultations" with all producers inside and outside Opec to "reach the best means to

balance supply and demand and maintain the balance thereafter."

Gulf-based oil industry sources said the kingdom's production has dropped dramatically to around 2.8 million barrels a day during the first week of March, rising to around 3.6 million barrels per day during the second week, compared with an Opec quota of 4.3 million barrels per day.

However, the sources, who closely monitor Saudi production, said the decline did not mean a return to Saudi Arabia's role as a "swing producer."

"I am certain the production will pick up again, as it has done

in the past," said a senior Japanese oil executive.

The sources estimated current Opec production between 16.7 to 17 million barrels per day with most of the overproduction coming from Iraq, which has refused a quota that is not equal to Iran's 2.3 million barrels per day.

At its last meeting in December, Opec set a production ceiling of 15.06 million barrels per day for all members except Iraq to stabilise prices at around \$18 a barrel.

Iraq's current production is estimated at 2.5 million barrels per day compared with around 2 million barrels per day pumped by Iran.

Saudi bank profits show tentative signs of recovery

BAHRAIN, March 21, (Reuters): Saudi Arabia's joint-venture banks, hamstrung by bad and doubtful loans, have shown the first signs of breaking a four-year cycle of slumping profits, but bankers say 1988 still promises to be a difficult year.

Earnings in 1986 fell to the lowest level since the start of the decade, but in past weeks four banks have declared higher 1987 profits and some now feel confident they can set aside lower loan provisions.

"It is a very patchy picture," said one banker. "Many banks carried on lending too long into the Saudi recession and are still paying the price... but a few have come through the worst."

After years of grappling with payments problems on lending to Saudi Arabia's recession-hit private sector, a few of the nine joint-venture banks have now built up provisions of around 25

per cent of loans and the strain on profits is easing.

But bankers caution many banks still look under-provided with loan reserves around 10 per cent, basic earnings are weak and opportunities to tap new business in Saudi Arabia limited.

"There was also a lot of pressure on banks to turn in better results to restore confidence in the banking system," said one Gulf-based banker. "It is difficult to say how cosmetic profit rises are, but there is no doubt some banks are doing better."

Decline

So far seven of the joint-venture banks have published 1987 results. The four reporting a rise in earnings include the largest, Saudi American Bank, which declared an 11.6 per cent gain in net profit to 90.1 million riyals (\$24 million).

But Al-Bank Al-Saudi Al-Fransi, or "Saudi French," saw a

32.1 per cent decline and two, Saudi British Bank and United Saudi Commercial Bank (USCB), were in the red.

Bankers say the two joint-ventures still to report may also show a loss — Bank Al-Jazira and the ailing Saudi Cairo Bank which is receiving a 300 million riyal (\$80 million) capital injection from the Saudi government in a rescue package.

Bahrain's offshore banks have been hit by non-performing loans to Latin America and set aside heavy provisions in 1987 to boost cover to about 20 per cent of Third World debt.

Saudi Arabia's banks in contrast concentrated their lending during the late 1970s and early 1980s on domestic companies but also ran into problems, with recoveries complicated by disputes over Islamic law and the Western concept of interest payments.

Bankers calculate the average level of provisions at the seven banks which have reported so far has risen to about 13 per cent from 10.3 per cent at the end of 1986. USCB, smallest and youngest of the banks, says it has covered 27 per cent of loans.

Bankers say they are encouraged that the Saudi government appears to be tackling deep-seated problems in the banking system caused by problem loans to the private sector.

Stake

The infusion of funds for Saudi Cairo doubles its capital and is being put up by the government-owned public investment fund in what one banker described as being "tantamount to a government bail-out."

It dilutes the stake of the bank's foreign partner Banque du Caire to 30 per cent from 40 per cent. Saudi Cairo declared a 59.7 million riyal (\$16 million)

1986 loss, the biggest ever for a joint-venture.

A government-backed tribunal set up under the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency — the Central Bank — to hear loan disputes between banks and debtors has often found in favour of banks since it began hearings in earnest at the end of last year.

Bankers also say government payments to contractors have speeded up in the past few months, allowing some private sector companies to service their debt more easily.

Bankers say Saudi American, owned 60 per cent by Saudi nationals and 40 per cent by Citibank, is now probably over the worst of its problems with non-performing loans.

Arab National Bank has also managed to steer clear of problem loans and increased its 1987 net profit by 32.3 per cent to 201.2 million riyals (\$54 million).

Farm subsidies issue eludes breakthrough

KONSTANZ, West Germany, March 21, (Reuters): Trade ministers from 30 nations failed in weekend talks to make significant progress towards an agreed reduction of farm subsidies.

"Agriculture was one of the most difficult points," West German Economic Minister Martin Bangemann said after the talks at the lakeside resort of Konstanz ended today.

But he told a news conference that progress was made on other trade issues and the ministers would meet again in Pakistan in October. "The discussions were a substantial step in the right direction," he said.

The informal talks reviewed progress in the Uruguay round of free trade negotiations begun in

September 1986 under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The four-year negotiations to try to remove trade barriers in 14 sectors reach their halfway point in December with a formal ministerial meeting in Montreal.

Bangemann said a proposal by the United States that all farm subsidies be abolished over 10 years from 1990 was unrealistic.

The United States and several other nations argue that EEC farm subsidies result in the world market being swamped with cut-price farm produce.

Most participants at the Konstanz talks thought it would be wrong to take the agriculture issue to the Montreal agenda, Bangemann said. "We are agreeing on some short-term subsidy

cuts... but it's impossible to agree on everything by the mid-term review (in Montreal)," he added.

Bangemann said the talks also covered tropical products, where the EEC proposes cutting or abolishing some duties in return for fewer trade restrictions by developing countries.

He said there was a willingness to make progress in this sector in Montreal.

Bangemann said the meeting discussed the political importance of GATT and decided the Geneva-based body should strengthen its role.

"Our goal is to stress the fact that trade and economic progress are inter-related," he said. "We are dealing with something vital for the development of all countries."

World Business Summary

Investcorp arranges acquisition of Burnham Service Corporation

INVESTCORP has announced that it has arranged the acquisition of Burnham Service Corporation ("Burnham"), a US publicly traded company for total consideration of approximately \$160 million. The acquisition group consists of affiliates of Investcorp and members of senior management of Burnham.

The group closed the tender offer upon receipt of over 98 per cent of Burnham's outstanding shares.

Burnham, headquartered in Columbus, Georgia, is a leading US company providing distribution, transportation, and information systems services for major corporations throughout the United States and Canada. The company emphasises the distribution and transportation of high-value electronics equipment, including computers and office equipment. Burnham's revenues have grown from \$13 million in 1978 to more than \$100 million in 1987. The company operates 80 branches throughout North America and has over 1,000 employees, 75.7 million cubic feet of warehouse space, and a fleet of over 2,000 trucks and trailers. The principal financial institution participating in the financing of the acquisition is The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A. ("Chase"). Chase is providing up to \$66 million in loans to finance the tender offer and has committed to provide \$102 million of long-term funding to Burnham through a syndicated loan facility which it will lead and arrange.

Ray E. Crowley, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Burnham, said that: "As managers/owners, we look forward to the challenges and opportunities presented by this change in ownership. We feel it will ensure Burnham's continued level of superior service to its clients and dedication to the development of its employees." Savio Tung, a member of the Management Committee of Investcorp, praised the leadership of Crowley and said that Investcorp is delighted with the opportunity to join in a partnership with the management of Burnham to acquire the company. "My colleague, Wayne A. Stabile, and I have worked extensively with Ray and his team on this transaction and are very impressed with all aspects of Burnham."

Plan to strengthen trade ties

AMMAN, March 21, (Reuters): Turkish Minister of State for Finance, Trade and Planning Yusuf Ozal flew home today following talks in Jordan on how to strengthen economic cooperation, the state-run news agency Petra said. Ozal, who arrived here on Friday, discussed with Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Zaid Al-Rifa'i and senior officials, ways to step up cooperation over economic, finance, electricity and irrigation projects, Petra said. His talks with Energy Minister Hisham Al-Khatib also covered plans to set up a joint committee together with Egypt and Syria to study the possibilities of linking the electricity grids of the four countries.

Petra said Ozal and Minister of Water and Irrigation Ahmed Dhukhamb assessed prospects for a water pipeline project to be set up between Turkey, Jordan, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and the Gulf states. The project, in which Turkey would supply water to the Arab countries, depends on the outcome of a feasibility study currently being undertaken by a group of consultant companies, ministry sources told Reuters.

KAC profits total KD3m

THE board chairman and managing director of Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC) Ahmed Al Meshari was quoted here yesterday as saying that the corporation in the current fiscal year has made a profit of more than KD3 million.

He told a local daily that the wise policy of the corporation which concentrated on limiting expenditure and operations, is behind that profit and success. Regarding the number of Kuwaitis in the corporation, Meshari said that the percentage of Kuwaiti employees in KAC will reach 57 per cent in 1988/89, noting that the number is considered high in the country. He added that the corporation will shortly draw up a plan to introduce a new air fleet for the 1990s and the beginning of the next century. Hailing the cooperation between the three Gulf Airways, Meshari said that there is strong cooperation, noting that they have established joint holding companies to set up joint projects, the Islamic cuisine in London, to operate soon, is the latest such joint venture, he added. The chairman, meanwhile noted fixing prices of air tickets, as stipulated in the recent law organising travel agencies in Kuwait, has been suspended.

Latin 'debt strategy has turned corner'

CARACAS, March 21, (Reuters): The Reagan administration believes that the strongest economic weapon of the Latin American debtor countries — the debt moratorium — has been tried and discredited, US government officials said yesterday.

The officials, attending the annual meeting of the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), said they believed the debt crisis had turned a critical corner and that the strategy unveiled by Treasury Secretary James Baker two and a half years ago and refined since had been more successful than was generally recognised.

The officials said Brazil had tried cutting off payments and in the end concluded that the moratorium carried too high a cost by shutting off new assistance.

Development

"That is an enormously positive development for the debt strategy," one source said. In the past there had been deep fear that the debtor countries, overwhelmed by nearly \$400 billion in foreign debt — much of it to commercial banks — would form a organisation and renounce their obligations.

But the sources said that the decision by Brazil to renew

payments on its debt to commercial banks and to seek a new economic programme with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) suggested this weapon had been tried and found wanting.

The sources said Brazil is seeking a three-year programme with the IMF rather than a much shorter agreement that has been used extensively since the debt crisis began in 1982.

They suggested this indicated Brazil was making a long-term commitment to solving its problems.

At the same time, the sources said that Argentina, despite major problems, had been showing economic discipline and Mexico had been doing well.

They said the lack of success of Mexico's so-called bonds-for-debt deal was another indication the banks preferred to continue holding on to the Mexican debt, in part because they planned to continue a long-term relationship with the country.

Other US officials attending the conference, including Assistant Treasury Secretary David Mulford, said in interviews with Reuters that a global solution to the debt strategy was not needed.

"The case for that is even weaker than it was a few months

ago," Mulford said.

The US officials attending the meeting also made it clear they will stand in the way of any new funding for the Inter-American Development Bank until it agrees to profound changes in its lending procedures.

The United States wants the bank to give more voting power to the countries that provide the funds, allowing Washington a virtual veto over loans.

The dispute has held up approval on about \$23 billion in new funding, critically needed by Latin countries.

A brief statement by Allen Wallis, US undersecretary of state for economic affairs, torpedoed any hope that the two-year-old funding dispute between the United States and the Latin American debtor countries would be resolved quickly.

Position

"We will not change our position this year, next year or the year after," Wallis said as he arrived on Saturday in Caracas for the bank's annual meeting, which opens formally today.

"It is not just the Treasury, the State Department, the White House. It is the entire administration that is absolutely firm in the position that the country is taking," he said.

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Currency Unit (ECU), the Dutch Guilder, the Swiss Franc, the French Franc, the Canadian Dollar... And as the Fund is valued weekly, you can add or subtract to your holdings at your discretion, every week.

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International Bond Highlights

London — Sweden is issuing a 100 mln stg Eurobond due April 11, 1993, paying 9-3/8 pct and priced at 101-1/4 pct. Warburg Securities said as lead manager. (RTWK 1128)

Frankfurt — Philip Morris Companies Inc is issuing a five-year 250 mln mark Eurobond with a 4-3/4 pct coupon priced at 101-1/2 to yield 4.41 pct, lead manager Deutsche Bank Ag said. (RTVG 0856)

London — The London branch of Banca Nazionale Del Lavoro is issuing a 100 mln ECU Eurobond due April 26, 1994, paying 7-5/8 pct and priced at 101-1/2 pct. Banque Paribas Capital Markets Ltd said as lead manager. (RTWO 1200)

London — Finnish Export Credit is issuing a 100 mln ECU Eurobond due March 21, 1992, paying 7-3/8 pct and priced at 101-3/8 pct. Morgan Stanley International Ltd said as lead manager. (RTYP 1532)

Amsterdam — Nederlandse Gasunie NV is issuing warrants for rights to purchase a 125 mln guilder, five-year Euro note, lead manager Swiss Bank Corp international (SBCI) said. (RTVV 1014)

Hong Kong — The Guangdong Province of Southern China is planning a 20 billion Euroyen Bond issue through its investment arm Guangdong International Trust and Investment Corp, banking sources said. (RTWF 1124)

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 8-5/8 1/2	8-5/8 9/16	8-11/16 9/16
FFT 3-30/40	3-40/45	3-40/45
PAR 7-5/16 3/8	7-3/4 7/8	8-1/16 3/16
ZUR 1/8 3/8	1-3/8 1-5/8	1-5/8 1-7/8
BRX 4-35	6-00 1/8	6-1/16 3/16
ROM 10-1/2 11	11-1/2 12	11-3/8 11-7/8
AMS 4-0/0 4-1/8	4-0/0 4-1/16	4-0/0 4-1/8
TOK 3-5625 6250	3-8750 9375	3-8750 9375
ECU 6.062 6.312	6.25 6.37	6.37 6.50

Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait, yesterday.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	5 1/16	5 9/16
3 months	5	5 1/2
6 months	4 15/16	5 7/16
1 year	4 15/16	5 7/16

BOMBAY

PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	65.50	63	64 HICO	515	515	500
ACC	144	146	142	GRASIM	89	86	86.25	NOCL	415
ASIA PAINT	147.50	142.50	140	GRSFC	67	67	65	PEICO	26
BAJAJ AUTO	422.50	410	407.50	HIND LEVER	102	99	96	ORAY	19
BAR-RAYON	180	175	172	HINDALCO	127	118	124	PFIZER	65
BOM-DYING	132	129.50	128	HINDCOCCO	82.50	80	78.75	PRE-AUTO	26
BR. BOND	83	80.50	82	HINDMOTOR	18	17.50	16.75	RAYMOND	47
BSE INDEX	420.41	417.18	418	IND ORG	15.50	15	15.50	RELIANCE	84
CENTURYSPG	785	775	762.50	INDRAYON	51.50	51	50	SICOM	64
COLGATE	182.50	182.50	176.25	INDROL	157.50	160	152.50	SPIC	24
DEEPAKFERT	26.50	26.50	26	ITC	35.50	34.50	35	STOKILLS	220
EI. HOTEL	42	42	43	JKSXTN	60	58.50	58	TATA PHR	191.25
EXXARF	171.25	167.50	163.75	L AND T	84.50	83	82	TATACHEM	60
ESSAR	78	78	77	MAHINDRA	53.50	53	52	TELCO	392.50
GAR. POLY	75.50	74.50	74.50	MASTERSHR	9.12	9	9.12	TISCO	646.25
GE.SHIP	24.35	23.75	23.85	MATHER PL	97.50	95.50	95	VOLTA	242.50

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
AEG	247.0
ALLIANZ VR	1428.0
BAIEN WER	179.0
BASF	251.7
BAYER	275.1
BAYER HYP	363.0
BAYER VER	357.0
BBC	318.0
BHF	355.5
BMW	533.0
CHEMIE-VER	0
COMMERZBANK	237.5
CONTI GUMM	255.5
DAIMLER	691.5
DEUTSCHE B	435.8
DREW	341.0
DIEMER	252.0
FAZ INDEX	472.57
GOLDSTEIN	247.5
GUTHOFF	0
HARPER	411.0
HOECHST AG	263.5
HOESCH	116.5
HORTEN	194.0
HUSSEL HLD	473.0
KALL SALZ	144.5
KARSTADT	467.0
KAUFFHO	407.5
KLOECK H	108.5
KLOECK W	0
LIHDE	592.0
LUFTHANSA	152.0
MAN	162.5
MANNESMAN	574.0
MERCEDES	574.0
METALLES	255.0
MIDWORT PF	572.5
NORSK HYD	51.00
PHILIP KOM	626.5
PORESCHE	541.0
PREUSSAG	150.0
RHEIN	205.5
RHEIN P	211.0
RHEINMETAL	201.2
SALAMANDER	263.0
SCHERING	460.0
SEL	320.6
SIEMENS	398.6
THYSEN	131.5
VARTA	268.0
VERA	263.0
VEN	163.5
VOLKSWAGEN	240.8

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
C H TUNNEL	14.70
CHUNG K	7.80
CHINA GAS	16.30
CHINA L-P	19.00
CHINA MTR	18.80
COSMO IND	4.30
EVERGO PRO	.33
FAR EAST C	.79
GEN ORIENT	0
H C DEVELOP	8.90
H S INDEX	602.80
HANG LUNG	4.80
HANG SENG	33.25
HAM PAR BR	0
HK ELEC CO	8.25
HK KOALCO	7.00
HK LAND CO	7.80
HK SHAN BK	7.50
HK SHAN HT	4.00
HK TELE CO	7.45
HUTCH WHAN	8.85
INT EQ PAC	9.10
JARDINE H	12.40
KOALCOON H	11.40
KEV WORLD	9.30
PAUL Y CON	1.77
REALTY DEV	5.90
S H K CO	1.81
S H K PROP	9.95
SINE OAKBY	1.55
STILW NFG	5.90
SWIRE PAC	18.30
T V B CO	13.90
TAI CHEUNG	3.55
UNION BANK	1.59
WOCK HAD	0
WOCK HAT	0
WORLD INTL	3.25

TOKYO

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
AJINOMOTO	3240
AKAI ELEC	620
AKI	965
ASAHI GAS	1960
ASAHI OPT	608
BANK TOKYO	1570
BRIDGESTON	1390
CANON	1190
CASIO COMP	1300
CHUGAI PHM	1740
CITIZEN W	630
O-ICHI KAN	3190
DAI NIP TK	780
DAI NIP PT	2580
DAI NIP SC	1000
DAI NIP TO	505
DAI NIP TO	505
DAIWA H	1780
DAIWA SEC	2730
EBARA NFG	937
EISAI	2700
FUJITSU	1540
FUJI BANK	3490
FUJI PHOTO	4340
FUJISAWA	2060
FUJITA CP	743
HITACHI	1430
HONDA MOT	1770
ISETAN	1440
ITO YOKADA	4170
JAP SYN RU	1010
JAPAN AIR	15200
JAPAN MET	470
KAJIMA	1520
KANSAI EL	2950
KAO SOAP	1950
KAWASAKI H	358
KAWASAKI S	410
KIRIN BEV	2340
KOMATSU	658
KUBOTA LTD	696
KYOCERA	5700
MAKITA EL	1880
MARUI	3000
MATSUITA EI	2680
MATSUBA EL	2630
MEIJI SEIK	920
NITTSUB CO	1240
NITTSUB EL	721
NITTSUB EST	2180
NITTSUB HVT	677
NITTSUB CO	857
NITTSUKOSHI	1530
NITTSUMI EL	1160
NICHICHI	1410
NIKON CMNT	864
NIP ELEC	2120
NIP ELEC	2190
NIP KOKAH	399
NIP OIL	1220
NIP STEEL	473
NIP YUSEN	595
NIS TORICO	893
NOMURA SEC	4220
OHBA CO	1000
OLYMPUS	1170
PENTA OCN	825
PIIONEER	3400
RENOM	852
RICHO	1310
SANKYO	2230
SANYO ELEC	554
SEIYU ST	2210
SEIKI SU PB	1870
SHARP	1040
SHISEIDO	1690
SONY	5320
SUMITOMO	1140
TAISEI	920
TAISHO PHM	1200
TAKEDA CH	3250
TEIJIN	825
TKO NEW IX	134.89
TOKIO MR	2120
TOKYO ELEC	1230
TOKYO GAS	1210
TOKYO POMR	6300
TORAY IND	814
TOSHIBA EL	810
TOTO	2310
TOYO KOGY	446
TOYOTA MOT	2480
YAMAHA	1290
YAMATCHI	2150
YAMAMOTO	4310
YANAZAKI	1490

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSE HIGHER IN ACTIVE TRADE

TOKYO, MARCH 21, REUTER - SHARE PRICES CLOSED HIGHER IN ROBUST TRADE, ALTHOUGH OPTIMISM FOLLOWING NEWS OF A SMALLER-THAN-EXPECTED U.S. JANUARY TRADE DEFICIT WAS LATER TEMPERED BY COMMENTS BY BANK OF JAPAN GOVERNOR SATOSHI SUMITA THAT THE STOCK MARKET WAS RISING TOO QUICKLY, BROKERS SAID.

"SUMITA'S COMMENTS TOOK THE STEAM OUT OF THE MARKET," SAID BROKER ROBERT KARR OF NEW JAPAN SECURITIES.

THE NIKKEI INDEX ROSE 39.97 POINTS, OR 0.36 PCT, TO 25,966.26, AFTER BRIEFLY TOPPING 26,000 IN MORNING TRADE. IT CLIMBED 167.86 POINTS ON THURSDAY. RISES LED FALLS FIVE TO FOUR IN TURNOVER OF 1.2 BILLION SHARES AGAINST 1.1 BILLION.

SECURITIES HOUSE, COMMUNICATIONS, NON-LIFE INSURANCE, BANK, ELECTRICAL, PHARMACEUTICAL, GAS, RAILWAY/BUS AND SHIPBUILDING ISSUES ADVANCED. CONSTRUCTION, CREDIT/LEASE, WAREHOUSE, TEXTILE AND SERVICE SHARES LOST GROUND.

INITIAL MARKET RESPONSE TO THE U.S. JANUARY TRADE DEFICIT OF 12.44 BILLION DLS WAS SOMEWHAT SUBDUED, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS ENOUGH BUYING ENTHUSIASM TO TEMPORARILY PUSH THE NIKKEI INDEX ABOVE THE 26,000-POINT LEVEL FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE OCTOBER 16, BROKERS SAID. THE MARKET PLUNGED ON OCTOBER 20.

MARKET FORECASTS OF THE U.S. TRADE SHORTFALL HAD RANGED FROM 13 BILLION TO 14 BILLION DLS.

"GIVEN THAT THE TRADE FIGURES WERE GOOD, THE MARKET IS NOT PERFORMING TOO STRONGLY," A BROKER SAID. "A LOT OF BUYING HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE IN ANTICIPATION OF GOOD NUMBERS."

THE NIKKEI INDEX HAD RISEN 438.78 POINTS OVER THE PREVIOUS THREE SESSIONS, AND BROKERS NOTED THAT A GREAT DEAL OF BUYING ENERGY HAD SIMPLY ORIED UP. THURSDAY SAW THE NIKKEI INDEX RISE TO PRE-CRASH LEVELS.

BANK OF JAPAN GOVERNOR SATOSHI SUMITA WAS QUOTED IN THE LATE MORNING AS TELLING A CABINET MEETING THAT THE RECENT RISES IN TOKYO STOCKS MAY HAVE BEEN TOO FAST, AND THIS DAMPENED INVESTOR ENTHUSIASM IN THE AFTERNOON.

Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, MARCH 21, REUTER - PRICES OF BLUE CHIPS CLOSED BARELY CHANGED WHILE SOME SECOND LINES ENJOYED SUBSTANTIAL GAINS, BROKERS SAID.

THE HANG SENG INDEX ENDED THE DAY 4.8 POINTS LOWER AT 2,602.80 AND THE BROADER BASED HONG KONG INDEX SLIPPED 2.15 POINTS TO 1,705.24.

TRADING WAS SLOWER ON TOTAL TURNOVER OF 909.47 MLN H.K. DLS AGAINST 1.48 BILLION LAST FRIDAY.

A BROKER WITH A BRITISH SECURITIES HOUSE SAID, "THE MARKET MOVED SIDEWAYS, WITH INVESTORS SWITCHING TO BLUE CHIPS WHICH HAVE NOT YET ANNOUNCED THEIR RESULTS."

AMMAN

OPNG	CLSG
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	1.35
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	1.81
ARAB BANK	113.0
ARAB CHEMICAL DTR	4.40
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.47
ARAB INSURANCE	0.94
ARAB INT. UNIV/TRADE	0.96
ARAB INT. UNIV/TRADE	0.96
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.53
ARAB JOR/INVT/BK	2.12
ARAB PAPER CON/TRA	0.38
ARAB PHARMA/MANF.	2.10
ARAB PHARMA/CHEM	0.76
ARAB POTASH CO.	---
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65
BANK OF JORDAN	16.15
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00
CATRO AMMAN BANK	30.00
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.40
DAR ALSHAAB DV/INV.	1.49
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.	0.45
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.58
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	4.05
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.33
GENERAL MINING	1.50
HIMMEL MINERALS	0.79
HOLY LAND INS.	1.15
IND./MATCH JEMCO	0.72
INDSTR. DEVLPT BNK	1.34
INDSTR./COMM/AGR.	1.40
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75
INTERN. CO/INV	0.64
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.96
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64
ITERMED/PETRI/CH	1.46
J. TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.75
JERUSALEM INS.	1.32
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	13.60
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	1.05
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.01
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.47
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.16
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	1.01
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.50
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	1.71
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.77
JOR LHM BRICK	0.24
JOR MANAG/CONSULT	0.50
JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.45
JOR PAPER CARDBRGG	3.15
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	2.20
JOR PIPES MANUFACT	1.18
JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	2.00
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	3.00
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	0.65
JOR SECURIT. CORP	0.91
JOR SELPHO CHEN.	3.03
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	1.28
JOR WORSTED MLL	4.35
JOR KUWAIT AGR	1.00
JOR. PETROLIUM REF	7.07
JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.30
JOR. INV. FIN. CORP	1.89
JORDANIAN GULF REAL	0.32
JORDAN DAIRY	1.03
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.20
JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94
JORDAN INSURANCE	13.85
JORDAN ISLAMIC BHK	1.76
JORDAN KMAIT BANK	1.55
JORDAN TANNING	1.90
LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.75
NACH/RENT/MAIN	0.83
HAS INDUSTRIES	0.69
MIDDEL EAST HOTEL	0.60
MIDDEL EAST INS	60.00
MINERALS RESEARCH	0.60
NAT. FIN. INVEST CO	1.80
NAT/CABEL/WIRE/MF	1.00
NATIONAL AHLIA INS	1.26
NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.50
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	0.81
NATIONAL STEEL	2.85
ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25
PETRA BANK	2.02
PETRA JOR. INS.	0.50
PHILADELPHIA INS.	0.69
RAFIA INDUSTRIAL	0.80
REAL ESTATE INV.	0.41
SHIPPING LINES	0.85
SPINNING LEVING	0.93
THE HOUSING BANK	1.60
UNITED INSURANCE	2.50
UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND	1.66
UNIVERSAL INS.	0.81
WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	0.85
YARMOUK INSURANCE	1.10

PHILIPPINES MAKATI

STOCK	BUY	SELL	LC-A	LC-B	LC-C
AC-A	9.00	8.90	9.00	LC-B	48
ANS	4.30	4.25	4.30	LC-C	37
FER-A	2.34	2.25	2.34	LC-B	38
GLO	32.00	32.00	32.50	LC-C	39
PLGT-A	142.00	142.00	143.00	BP-A	0.15
PLGT-B	1.52	1.70	1.70	BP-B	0.16
SMC-A	128.00	128.00	129.00	LR-A	0.026
SMC-B	150.00	151.00	151.00	LR-B	0.026
MINING SECTOR	0.32	0.32	0.32	OP-A	0.037
APX-A	0.31	0.31	0.31	OP-B	0.039
APX-B	0.32	0.32	0.32	OP-C	0.034
AT-A	22.50	22.75	23.25	OV-B	0.033

Makati Stock Market Report

OFFICIAL INFORMATION

SECTOR	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
COMM.-IND.	320,650	4,976,770	751.68	0.86 UP
MINING	111,984,500	7,215,425	5,165.90	10.39 UP
OIL	112,850,			

Saudis to increase capacity of pipeline to Red Sea

NICOSIA, Cyprus, March 21, (AP): Saudi Arabia will increase the capacity of a pipeline transporting crude oil from fields on the Gulf to a port on the Red Sea by 55 per cent, an oil newsletter reported today.

Expansion of the cross-country facility to 5 million barrels a day "will make Saudi Arabia virtually independent of the Gulf for its crude oil exports, if the need arises," the Middle East Economic Survey reported.

The pipeline presently has a capacity of 3.2 million barrels a day.

Expansion

The publication, citing authoritative Saudi sources, said the expansion will be accomplished entirely by expanding and upgrading pumping facilities and will not require laying of new pipe. Bids for the project were invited to be submitted by mid-March.

No completion date was given. Saudi Arabia's exports are currently about 4 million barrels a day, according to a production quota set by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, though its production capacity is more than double this amount.

The newsletter said the Saudi project substantially upgrades the Red Sea as one of the world's oil exporting centres.

Iraq sends about 1 million barrels a day across Saudi Arabia to the Red Sea at present and is expanding the pipeline network to a capacity of 1.6 barrels a day by September, 1989.

"A plan for a pipeline linking Kuwait to the Red Sea coast of Saudi Arabia is also reported to be under consideration," the Middle East Economic Survey reported.

Unesco chief acts to cut expenditure

HARARE, March 21, (Reuters): Unesco director-general Federico Mayor said today that he had introduced tough austerity measures to control the organisation's spending.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation had been criticised for alleged financial mismanagement under former director-general Mahatar M'Bow.

Mayor, who took over last year, told an airport news conference he had reduced the number of meetings, slashed paperwork and cut official trips.

He said the Unesco general conference had asked him to make economies of \$2 million between November 16 and December 31 last year to avoid a deficit.

Measures

"And this we made because I adopted very sharp measures of austerity concerning meetings that have been reduced in number and length by 25 per cent and by reducing all kinds of documentation by 50 per cent."

"I also adopted some measures concerning travel and all the activities of the organisation have been sharply reduced," he said.

Asked about members who have withdrawn from Unesco, Mayor said he had written to them asking them to return.

The United States and Britain left Unesco complaining the organisation had come under strong left-wing influence by Third World members.

Seminar on high level protocols and standards

DATA Communications (McGraw-Hill), USA is to hold 3-day seminars on "high level protocols & standards" next week in Kuwait. This is the first time that such a technically advanced "State of Art" seminar is held in Middle East.

The first seminar from March 26 to 28 is exclusively for Kuwait National Petroleum Company whereas the second seminar is open to public which will be held at Kuwait Plaza from March 29 to March 31 (8 am to 3 pm). The seminar is recommended for engineers planning, designing or implementing data networks or interfacing Multivendor Computer Systems. The seminar will present information without any bias towards any specific manufacturer and thus will be knowledge based and not for marketing a product or system.

The seminar will have the traditional benefit of bringing together the Data Communication professionals in this field. The event is sponsored by M/s Zaid, Al-Kazemi Sons Trading Co.

Dollar eases

Oil prices firmer, gold gains

LONDON, March 21, (Reuters): Oil prices rose briskly today and the price of gold followed them up as investors sensed a whiff of inflation in the air.

Crude from the North Sea Brent field, a good barometer of the international spot market, changed hands as high as \$15.35 a barrel for loading in May — up 40 cents from Friday.

US crude oil futures jumped to \$17.

Gold was fixed for the afternoon in the London bullion market at \$449.25 an ounce and was later quoted above \$450. That was \$7 above Friday's price.

Boosted

Traders cited various factors for a rebound in oil prices which have been weak lately because of an oversupply.

News that Saudi Arabia was consulting other producers helped the price, they said.

New York traders said crude oil futures were boosted by the escalation of the tanker war in the Gulf over the weekend.

Also, the market awaited a news conference on Tuesday by Nigerian Oil Minister Rilwanu Lukman, the president of Opec, amid speculation that may be followed by a meeting of the organisation's ministerial price committee.

Easier

Oil Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti of Venezuela did not rule out such a meeting to consider action to support prices.

Among stock markets, Tokyo was closed for Japan's Spring Equinox Holiday while Wall Street showed early declines which took the Dow Jones industrial average down 24 points to 2,064.

New York analysts cited an

easier dollar and a weak lead by the London Stock Market, where the FTSE index of 100 British blue-chips was down 14 at just above 1,840 in mid-afternoon.

London brokers said the weakness on Wall Street in turn dragged British shares down in London's afternoon. French shares drifted lower, Paris brokers said, and the Frankfurt Bourse's FAZ index closed down 3.8 at 472.57 points after a thin session.

Rise

In Asia, blue chips closed barely changed in Hong Kong where the Hang Seng index ended 4.8 down at 2,602.80 points.

But Sydney stocks extended a strong rally that took the Australian all-ordinaries index up 18.2 to close at 1,432.2 points. The market had risen four per

cent last week.

Brokers said gains were made across-the-board today but leading industrials came off their best towards the day's end.

"The market did run out of steam towards the end of trading, but you can't have a 25-point rise every day without taking a breather," one said.

Among currencies, the dollar eased then steadied just under 127 yen at 1.69 marks. Sterling, the star performer lately, was steady around \$1.83 and just above 3.09 marks.

Despite a cut from nine to 8.5 per cent last Thursday, British base interest rates remain relatively high and continue to attract funds.

"I think the probability is that the market does have another go at 3.10 (marks)," said Mark Brett, economist at Barclays De Zoete Wedd.

Bid to strengthen GATT

Ministers fail to make progress on agriculture

CONSTANCE, West Germany, March 21, (AP): Trade Ministers from 27 countries ended informal talks yesterday with a pledge to strengthen the 95-nation General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

But the officials failed to agree on agriculture policy during the three-day meeting. The deadlock on agriculture policy is seen as a crucial issue in current world trade talks, scheduled to last four years.

"There was no movement of positions at all," Australian Trade Minister Michael Duffy said after the meeting, which included trade ministers from the United States, Japan and the European Economic Community (EEC).

The United States insists that all agricultural subsidies should be abolished worldwide by the year 2000. The EEC maintains it will join in substantial cuts in

agricultural subsidies, but rejects the long-term US proposal.

The third big player in the agriculture policy debate is the 13-country Cairns Group, the non-aligned, free-trade-oriented agricultural exporters whose agriculture reform proposal calls for both short-term measures to freeze subsidies and long-term reform.

Duffy said he outlined the Cairns Group proposal, first revealed last month, to the ministers attending the meeting, but added that he got little response from the EEC or the United States.

Reforms

Willy de Clercq, the EEC commissioner for external affairs, said the Cairns Group proposal might present "an opening" for further negotiations. "There should be a way to find common ground," he told reporters.

"Although on the substantive level no progress was made, everybody seems willing to continue to work to resolve the issue," De Clercq said.

US Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter said the Cairns Group proposal focused too much on short-term reforms.

"That's not good enough for us," Yeutter said, adding that the United States will release an official reaction to the plan soon.

Talks

Failure to reach some agreement on agriculture policy by December, when trade ministers will assess progress at the half-way mark in the current round of talks, would be "disastrous," Duffy said.

West German Economics Minister Martin Bangemann described the mood among the ministers as "excellent" and said ministers had agreed that a num-

ber of issues would be ready for "early harvest" by the mid-term review in Montreal in December.

The ministers decided to meet for more informal talks in Pakistan in early October, Bangemann said.

They agreed to improve GATT's surveillance of world trade practices, as well as its dispute settlement process. GATT should encourage greater cooperation with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, they said.

On suggestion that won strong praise for the ministers was to introduce voluntary arbitration as an alternative to the regular dispute settlement process, Bangemann said.

The ministers also agreed that trade in textiles should again be governed by GATT regulations once the current multi-fiber agreement (MFA) expires in 1991, he said.

Bonn announces sale of stake in VW

BONN, March 21, (Reuters): The West German government said today it was selling its 16-per cent stake in carmaker Volkswagen AG half a century after the state created the firm with the goal of providing every German family with a car.

Following weeks of market speculation that the VW sale would come before Easter, the government said it would offer its 4.8 million ordinary shares to the public at 238 marks (\$142) per share on Thursday.

VW's share price slipped on the news in unofficial after-hours trading to around 238 marks (\$142) from 240.80 marks

(\$150.50) at the closing bell on the Frankfurt bourse.

The sale, part of a programme to sell off state assets, will bring 1.14 billion marks (\$678 million) to government coffers.

Sale

This is the federal government's third attempt to sell off its stake in VW, the firm which Adolf Hitler founded to make cars for everyone — Volkswagen means "people's car" — and which made history's biggest-selling model, the snub-nosed Beetle.

The government decided on the sell-off in 1986, but the share flotation was shelved when VW announced it had been swindled

out of millions of marks in a massive currency fraud.

In 1987, the government announced it would sell off its interest in VW in November, but it had to postpone the sale once again when the West German bourse collapsed with other major world markets in October.

VW shares have lost one-third of their value since the October crash. A market price of 366 marks (\$217) on the Friday before "Black Monday", October 19, would have brought Bonn around 1.8 billion marks (\$1.07 billion).

Share analysts said the government's pricing could be a test for the West German stock market

which has been recovering slowly in recent months. They added that the pricing was tighter than they had expected.

"The government is shooting for as much as it can get," said Stephen Reitman, European motor analyst with London brokers UBS-Phillips and Drew.

Analysis

Analysts said the government and the consortium banks were betting on a continued recovery of West German stocks. Dieter Wermuth, portfolio manager with manufacturers Hanover Trust Co in Frankfurt, said: "They are gambling on a further VW rise as the market generally goes higher."

Nigerian state oil company to become commercial enterprise

KADUNA, Nigeria, March 21, (Reuters): Nigeria said today that with immediate effect its state oil company would become an autonomous, fully commercial enterprise.

"From now onwards, the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) will be financially autonomous in its operations," military President General Ibrahim Babangida said at the official opening of a petrochemicals plant in this northern city.

"The NNPC has been reorganised to become a commercially integrated, international oil company," he added.

Move

Oil company officials attending the ceremony said the move meant NNPC would be free to determine its own domestic and international oil policies, including product pricing.

Commercialisation of the corporation is in tune with Nigeria's economic reform programme which advocates a steady reduction of government involvement in the economy.

Babangida said NNPC, which employs about 17,000 people and is responsible for more than 70 per cent of the country's foreign earnings, would engage in exploration, production, processing and marketing of crude oil and gas.

Prices

NNPC officials said the firm, which was hitherto controlled by the Ministry of Petroleum Resources, would be split into several companies with responsibility for different sectors.

Higher domestic petrol prices in Nigeria seem a likely consequence of the NNPC move, economic analysts in Lagos said.

The military government has wanted to raise pump prices which at nine US cents a litre (41 cents a gallon) are among the lowest in the world — for months, but has held back in the face of opposition from trade unions and the press.

But with a 1988 estimated budget deficit of 8.6 billion naira (about \$2 billion), the need for

more revenue is pressing, and both the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and Nigeria's western creditors are pressing for a hefty increase.

While preparing to go commercial, NNPC has sought equity interests in refineries and other downstream operations abroad.

Babangida said arrangements had been concluded with partners to refine agreed quantities of Nigerian crude. He did not name the partners but oil industry sources said at least six such agreements were ready for signing.

The President remarked: "Towards this goal, a two-train plant which can produce a maximum of 4.5 million tonnes per annum is being proposed," adding that with the commissioning of the country's fourth refinery at port Harcourt next year, Nigeria would soon be an exporter of gas.

Initiatives

Babangida urged Nigerian engineers, scientists and entrepreneurs to offer fresh initiatives which could ensure rapid, viable and sustainable exploitation of the country's natural resources.

He called on the private sector and foreign investors to participate in the LNG programme, particularly in the installation of an effective distribution network.

This, he observed, would help to reduce the extensive use of wood and kerosene for cooking and other domestic purposes.

The Kwaale-Okpai plant has a capacity to refine about 80 million standard cu. ft and 10,000 barrels of condensate daily.

Support

He pledged to maintain Nigeria's support for the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, of which it is a member, and to promote dialogue between producers and consumers.

"We shall do so to help stabilise the world oil market," he added, Nigeria occupies a central role in global oil affairs, both as a leading producer and because

Oil Minister Rilwanu Lukman is current Opec chairman.

He said part of Nigeria's strategy for dealing with the intensely volatile state of the oil market was to boost its capacity for storing crude. "Our objective is to install a production system which can hold something in excess of two million barrels a day," Babangida said.

Lukman is due to address a news conference in Lagos on Tuesday.

World oil markets have reacted anxiously amid speculation about what he might announce to try to firm depressed crude prices, including the possibility of calling a special meeting of Opec's price committee.

Lukman himself has given no hint that he might convene the committee. On the contrary, he has pledged that as long as he is chairman Opec would not be panicked into precipitate action by market pressure.

GCC and EEC to finalise cooperation accord

RIYADH, March 21, (Reuters): The European Economic Community (EEC) and Gulf Arab states are expected to finalise an agreement on economic and political cooperation this week, diplomats said today.

Representatives of the Community and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) will meet in Brussels on Thursday, a spokesman for the West German embassy in Riyadh said.

He said they were due to finalise the first phase of an accord which could later lead to free trade between the two economic groups.

Member states of the GCC, at present chaired by Saudi Arabia, have spent billions of dollars building a petrochemical industry. They complain that EEC tariffs on their products are too high and want a free trade agreement.

Rwanda's peasants swap gourds for banks as home for savings

KIGALI, March 21, (Reuters): Rwanda's peasants are swapping gourds, jugs and cow horns for banks as a home for their meagre savings.

Blazing a trail in Third World banking, the government of the tiny, densely-peopled Central African country has during the past 13 years developed a network of cooperative People's banks to draw rural communities into the world of financial services.

It has set up 96 of them so far, helped by funds and technical assistance from Canada, France, and Switzerland.

Predict

And officials predict that within six years nearly all of Rwanda's seven million people could live less than a couple of hours' walk from a bank.

The People's Bank offer lower interest on deposits than commercial banks in the more distant

towns. But they also provide small loans, which would otherwise be difficult for many people to raise in a country with an income per capita of less than \$300 a year, and are thus an important source of funds for housing and farming.

Supervision

Each bank operates within only one commune or parish, and clients are also shareholders who elect management and staff. Local folk therefore identify closely with their bank.

While outsiders are allowed to open accounts, they may not become shareholders.

People's Banks, which are subject to government supervision, have so far been set up in 87 of Rwanda's 143 communes, with eight to 10 opening each year in response to local demand.

The network boasted 157,000

customers at the end of 1987 and deposits of 2.82 billion francs — 38 million — just over 10 per cent of all deposits in Rwanda's banking system.

The first cooperative bank was set up in 1975 after the government realised some 40 per cent of all cash in circulation was stashed away in savings outside the banking system.

In 1986, they lent sums worth a total \$6.8 million to more than 19,500 people, with loans averaging just over \$500.

Interest

Although People's Banks have also opened in the large towns — there are four in the capital, Kigali — 89 per cent of their credit in 1986 went to customers in the countryside.

The People's Banks pay three per cent interest on current accounts, half the deposit rate offered by commercial banks.

Syrian oil output soars

NICOSIA, Cyprus, March 21, (AP): Syria's oil production has risen dramatically because of a big increase in output from the Al-Tayyim field and is likely to be boosted further by new discoveries, the Middle East Economic Survey reported today.

The respected oil industry newsletter, published in Nicosia, said output at Al Tayyim in north-east Syria rose from 60,000 barrels a day to 106,000 barrels after two outlying fields were hooked into production pipelines.

Increase

That would put Syrian production at around 275,000 barrels a day.

The weekly said that the light, low-sulphur crude was being

pumped to a state-owned refinery at Homs, 100 miles (160 kilometres) north of Damascus.

The production increase, along with at least three new discoveries, was expected to make Syria an oil exporter by the end of the year, a major boost for the country's troubled economy.

With a domestic consumption of around 220,000 barrels a day, Syria's modest export capacity would help Damascus cope with an estimated foreign debt of at least \$3 billion.

The increase in oil production could also have far-reaching political effects.

Apart from the Al-Tayyim output, Syria produces around 170,000 barrels a day of heavy crude from older fields such as

Suwaidiyah in the northeast.

The newsletter said that the most promising new discovery is at Omara, northeast of Al-Tayyim. It said preliminary estimates indicated a daily output of 50,000 barrels, possibly rising later to 100,000 barrels a day.

Network

Once the field is developed, it will be hooked into the Al-Tayyim production network.

The survey reported two other discoveries near Omara, but said these were still being assessed and there was no hard information available on them.

President Hafez Assad announced two weeks ago that the Syrians have made "new oil discoveries," but did not elaborate.

Swissair traffic volume rises

IN view of the favourable results achieved in 1987, Swissair's board of directors resolved at its meeting on March 16 to recommend to the annual general assembly of shareholders that the company's distribution of profit be raised by 9 per cent.

The net profit of SFR72.1 million enable the dividend to be set at a level of SFR36 per share. SFR33 per share in 1986, and SFR7.20, SFR6.60 per dividend-right certificate.

The general assembly of shareholders is to take place at Swissair's Hangar III at Zurich airport at 3.00 pm. The board will be able to submit an unexpectedly favourable report on Swissair's trading performance in 1987.

Traffic volume rose by 7.1 per cent overall compared to the previous year, thanks above all to a surprisingly vigorous upsurge in the last quarter.

Despite this growth, however, total revenues were down SFR27 million to SFR4,003 million — 0.7 per cent, owing to the fact that revenues generated outside Switzerland were once again significantly eroded by exchange rate movements.

By contrast, total expenditures were reduced by SFR62 million to SFR 3,628 million — 1.7 per cent, due to currency movements and a number of measures implemented to improve corporate efficiency.

The gross profit of SFR375 million, 1986 SFR340 million enable provision to be made for supplementary depreciation in the order of SFR30 million, in addition to allowance for ordinary depreciation amounting to SFR273. A net profit remains of SFR72 million 1986 SFR64.5 million.

Together with profit brought forward from the previous year, a total of SFR77.1 million is at the disposal of the assembly. The board recommends the appropriation from this amount of SFR8 million to statutory reserves and SFR2 million to Swissair's personnel welfare institutions.

A proposal will be made to issue a dividend of SFR36 gross per share, 1986 SFR33, and SFR7.20 gross per dividend-right certificate, SFR6.60. A total of SFR5.6 million thus remains to be carried forward.

Under elections, a recommendation will be made to the annual assembly on April 28 to appoint National Councillor Vreni Spoerri-Toneatti as a member of the board in succession to Heiner P. Schulthess, who is relinquishing his seat. In addition, a proposal will be made to re-elect five board members.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 21.3.88			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
1	Al Razak	KSA	4843150
2	Zarka	Gh N Q	4747815
3	Crocus	Gh N Q	4747815
5	Paschalis	ISA	2441860
6	Roman Pazinski	A. Seas	2421303
7	General St. Poplawski	A. Seas	2421303
8	Shaan	ISA	2441860
11	Rashidiah	Gh N Q	4747815
13	Kara Koram	Transcont	2436920
FH3	Iris Everet	ISA	2441860
15	Dresden	Steamco	2439973
16	Mistral	Gh N Q	4747815
17	Royal Reefer	Al Bader	2433537
18	Al Shuwaikh	Livestock	2434177

SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
19/3	Adriatic Universal	United	2463150
22/3	Ibn Shuhaid	KSA	4843150
22/3	Lanka Sreedevi	Gh N Q	4747815
22/3	Pelagos	YAAS	4745533

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
2	Adonis	Roger	2423642
3	Uco XVII	Sagership	2432692
6	Sunset	Algh Barber	4842988
7	Kashima	ISA	2441860
8	Ibn Qutaiyah	UASC	4843150
11	Mercs Colombo	Alquuth	4747815
12	Alsamie	Al Bader	2433537

SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
20/3	Ville Du Havre	Alrasheed	2422026
20/3	Abu Besma	Roger	2423642
23/3	Jupiter	Roger	2423642
22/3	Al Mirqah	UASC	4843150
22/3	Pamela II	Algh Barber	4842988
26/3	Al Ihsaa	UASC	4843

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Dear Junior Readers,

We all like to receive letters from our relatives or friends. It is sometimes, however, less of a joy to write letters.

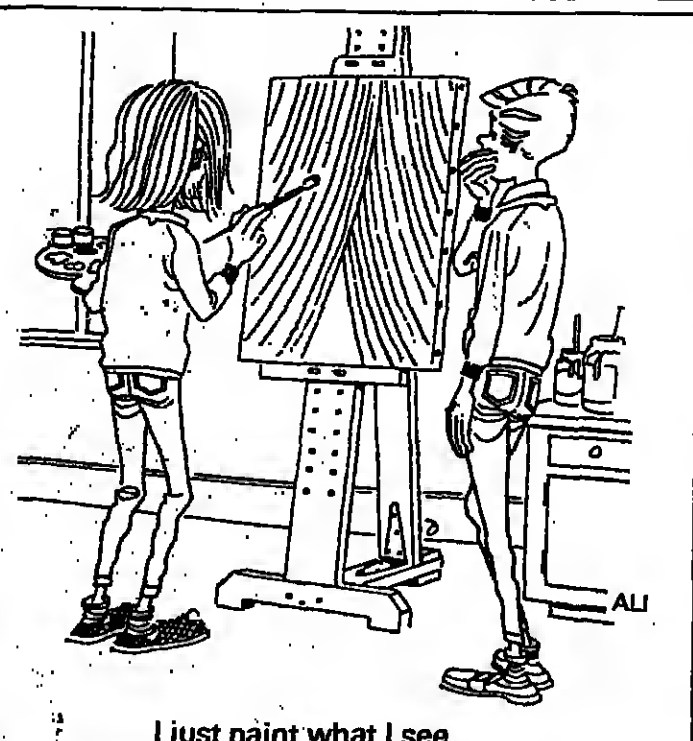
Take a few minutes from your free time and write a letter to a friend or relative that you haven't written for a while. You don't need to write several pages for them to appreciate it—just a few lines to let them know you are thinking about them.

Letters mean a lot to you. Send a letter to someone you care about, knowing it will mean a lot to them, too.

Aunt Barbara

Happy birthday

Omar Hanson was three years old on Saturday, March 23. Best wishes Omar from your family and friends.



I just paint what I see.

HAVE you heard of the brave little tailor who killed seven at one blow?

"Seven what?" you ask — and a good question, too.

For nobody else ever asked, "Seven what?" — which goes to show how much smarter you are than anybody else in this story.

Except, perhaps, for the little tailor. But let's see about that.

ONE day a little tailor was sitting and stitching away on a fine satin coat for the mayor. Down the street there came an old woman, crying jam for sale.

"Jam for sale! Fine jam for sale! Fine, sweet, red strawberry jam for sale!" she cried.

And that was the turning point in the little tailor's life. For it was almost dinner-time, and he was very hungry. Strawberry jam — that sounded wonderful! The little tailor stepped to his doorway, bought some jam, and spread it on a thick slice of bread.

"But first," he thought, "I must finish this sleeve. And there's no use getting my hands sticky."

So he put the bread on the table and went back to his work. He stitched the sleeve of the mayor's coat into the armhole good and tight. There! It was done. And he hung the coat carefully over the back of a chair.

But when he went to pick up his bread, what did he see? Buzzing and walking around on the jam was a whole army of flies!

Angrily, the little tailor raised his hand and brought it down. SLAM!

Ugh — what a mess!

But the flies were dead, every last one. And the little tailor counted them: one, two, three, four, five, six, seven. Seven at one blow!

"Now that," said the little tailor, "is really some-

The brave little tailor

thing!"

That evening the little tailor took a piece of cloth and made it into a belt. He stitched on it in bright red letters the words SEVEN AT A BLOW.

And no one can say," he said, "that isn't the absolute truth."

When he put on the belt and looked at himself in the mirror, the little tailor saw at once what a handsome and brave man he was. Much too handsome indeed to be a tailor.

Seven at a blow — why, such a fellow should be out in the world killing dragons and being a hero!

So the little tailor locked up his tailor shop and set out to find some adventures. He had not walked more than two miles when a messenger from the king ran up to him. After all, you cannot go out into the world wearing a belt with SEVEN AT A BLOW written on it and not expect people to hear about it! So of course the little tailor

was brought to the king.

"Seven at a blow!" cried the king, when the little tailor had finished bowing before him. "So it's true, what people have been telling me?"

"Yes, Sire," answered the little tailor. "It is the absolute truth."

"Then you are the man we need," said the king. "Do you suppose you could get rid of the two dreadful giants who live in the Northern Woods and are scaring all the people in my kingdom?"

"I suppose I could," said the little tailor. "Just give me a sword and show me where they are."

So the king's men rode with the little tailor to the edge of the Northern Woods where the giants lived. And there the king's men were quite glad to leave him.

The little tailor had not walked more than a mile into the woods when, tromp-tromp, tromp-tromp! — the giants were

coming!

What to do?

"Now think hard," the little tailor said to himself. "But while you're thinking, you could at least be climbing a tree." So he scampered up the nearest tree and hid in its branches.

The giants were as ugly as the tailor thought they would be. Even uglier. But they were something else, too. They were sleepy. And when they came to the tree where the little tailor was hiding, they yawned and stretched and lay down to take a nap.

As they slept, the little tailor picked a pine cone from the tree and dropped it — PLOP! — onto one giant's nose.

Wump! The giant woke up and kicked the other giant. "Stop that!" he roared.

"Stop what?" asked the second giant. Then the little tailor dropped another cone — PLUNK! — right in the first giant's eye.

"Stop THAT!" he bell-

owed.

In a wink they were both up and at it, fighting so that the whole forest trembled with the noise they made. The tree the little tailor was hiding in shook until he almost fell out of it.

Finally each giant ripped up a tree, roots and all — but not the tree the little tailor was in — and they hit each other until they both fell senseless to the ground.

The little tailor climbed down and ran each of them through with his sword. Then he brought the king's men to drag the bodies home.

"Now you shall have your reward!" cried the king. And indeed there was a bag of gold waiting at the foot of the throne.

"But first — do you suppose you could do something about the ferocious wild boar that has been causing so much trouble in the Southern Woods?"

"I suppose I could," said the little tailor. For after all, hadn't he killed a unicorn and two giants, not to mention the seven at a blow? And no one could say that wasn't the absolute truth!

So the king's men rode with the little tailor to the edge of the Southern Woods where the boar lived. And there they were quite glad to leave him.

He had not walked more than a quarter mile into the woods when — snort, snort! — there came the boar. And what a beast it was! The little tailor took one look and turned pale.

What to do?

"It's not in the least sleepy," thought the little tailor. "And it certainly can't pin itself to a tree — and I haven't any time to think at all!"

So the little tailor simply turned and ran. And he ran and ran, with the boar right behind him, until he saw a little hut in the

woods. Into the hut he ran — but before he could shut the door, the boar was in the hut as well.

With a wild look around, the little tailor spied a little window, just his size. Out he jumped and ran around the hut to the door. SLAM! — he shut the door, and SNAP! — he made the padlock fast. And the boar, who was much too big to go out the window, was trapped inside.

Then the little tailor brought the king's men to take the boar home alive.

"And now you shall have your reward!" cried the king. And indeed there were now three bags of gold at the foot of the throne.

"But there is something troubling the kingdom in the Western Woods. So first, do you suppose you could..."

"I'm sure I could," said the little tailor — whatever it is. After all, haven't I captured the wild boar and killed two giants and a unicorn, not to mention the seven at a blow?

"But I think I left the mayor's coat hanging over the back of a chair in my shop. It is high time for me to go home and deliver it. So if you don't mind, Sire, I'll take my reward and go."

Which is exactly what he did. Back home he went, carrying three heavy bags of gold. And when he got back to his little shop, there indeed was the mayor's coat, hanging over the back of a chair.

The little tailor took off his belt and hung it on a nail on the wall — where it may be yet, unless he has moved it — and he lived happily and very comfortably ever after.

As for whatever was troubling the kingdom in the Western Woods, it is probably still there.



Cereals

Wheat, oats, barley, rice, maize, rye, and corn are all kinds of grasses. These food grasses are called cereals. Rye, maize and rice are also cereals. The seeds of these cereals provide food for people all over the world.

The seeds of wheat, or wheat grains, are ground into flour. From flour we

Science corner

make bread and cakes. Oat grains are ground to make oatmeal. We eat porridge made of oatmeal. From barley, malt for making beer is obtained. Cornflakes are made from the grains of maize.

Grasses GRASSES provide food

for many of the animals which give us meat. Cows and sheep like to eat grass very much.

Grasses are important in another way. Growing almost everywhere, grass stops the soil being washed away when it rains on hillsides and steep slopes.



Asia



Where to find the pangolin This very strange mammal lives in the dense equatorial jungles of Asia and is common in the islands of Malaysia. Another type of pangolin makes its homes in the forests of Africa.

The pangolin is a shy, harmless, nocturnal animal with a long body up to a metre in length which resembles the anteater. It has a small head, short legs and a thick tail which is always curled up like a question mark. The skin of its throat and the underparts of the body is soft, but the rest of the pangolin's body is covered in hard, horny, yellowish-brown scales which are so made that the pangolin can roll itself up into a ball when it is frightened or in danger.

The name 'pangolin' comes from a Javanese word meaning 'the animal that rolls up into a ball'. The pangolin, which has no teeth uses its long, sticky, snake-like tongue to scoop up ants and termites, insects that provide its only food. The pangolin also has very strong claws on its forefeet, but it uses these only for tearing down anthills to force the insects out into the open ground.

Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS

THE FIRST TRUE MOTOR RACE TOOK PLACE IN 1891 - THE PARIS-BORDEAUX-PARIS OVER 732 MILES (1178 km), AMONG THE 22 STARTERS WERE THE NICHOLIN, SOUTHERN, ANDRE AND ENGLAND DRIVING A PEUGEOT THE FIRST CAR TO BE BUILT IN FRANCE.

SIR JACK BRADHAM (1880-1954) WINNER OF THREE CHAMPIONSHIPS, BECAME THE FIRST DRIVER TO WIN A CHAMPIONSHIP RACE IN A CAR BEARING HIS OWN NAME WHEN HE REPOCO-BRASHED IN THE FRENCH RACE AT REIMS IN 1925.

THE YOUNGEST WORLD CHAMPION WAS EMERSON FITZPATRICK (1912-1982) WHO WON HIS FIRST TITLE ON 12 SEPTEMBER 1927 AT THE AGE OF 25 YEARS 275 DAYS.

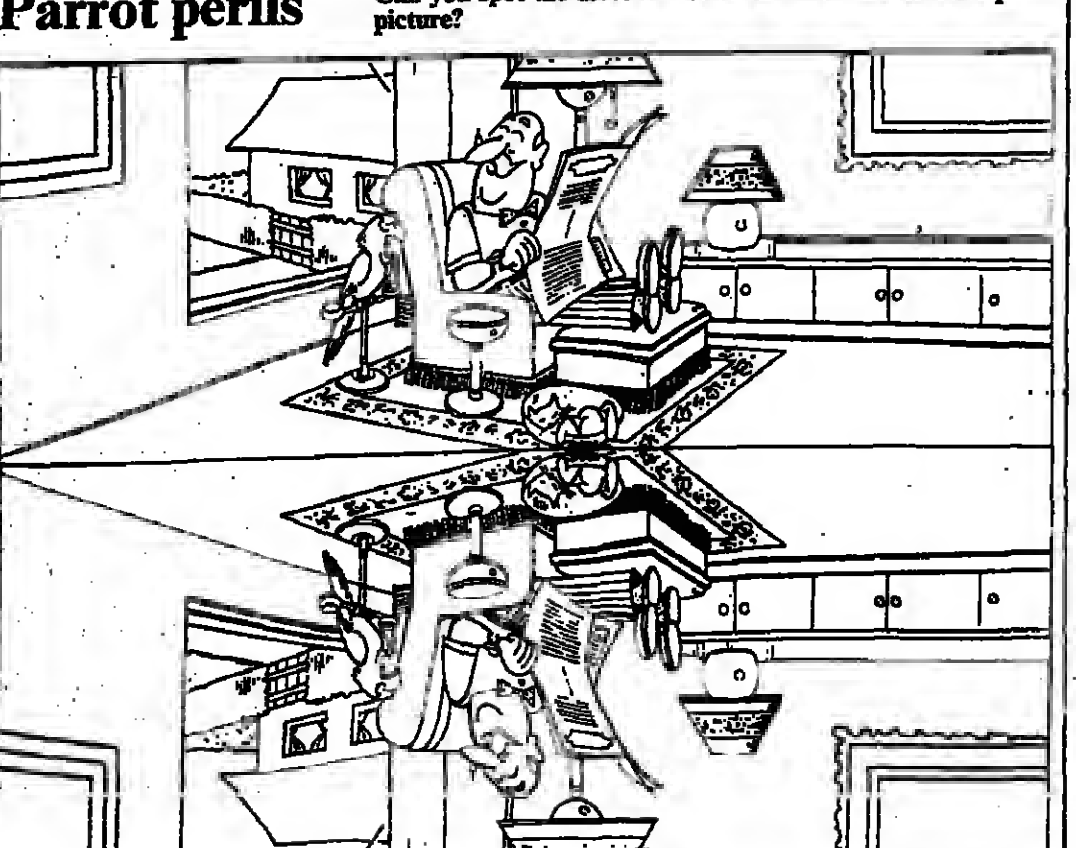
THE FIRST WORLD-WIDE ROCK 'N' ROLL CONCERT WAS HELD IN 1958. IT WAS THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF CONCERTS PLANNED BY THE CREDIT OF THE ROCK 'N' ROLL JUNGLE, HELD IN 1958.

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Parrot perils

Can you spot the three errors in the reflection in the top picture?



Magic tricks

Foldaway

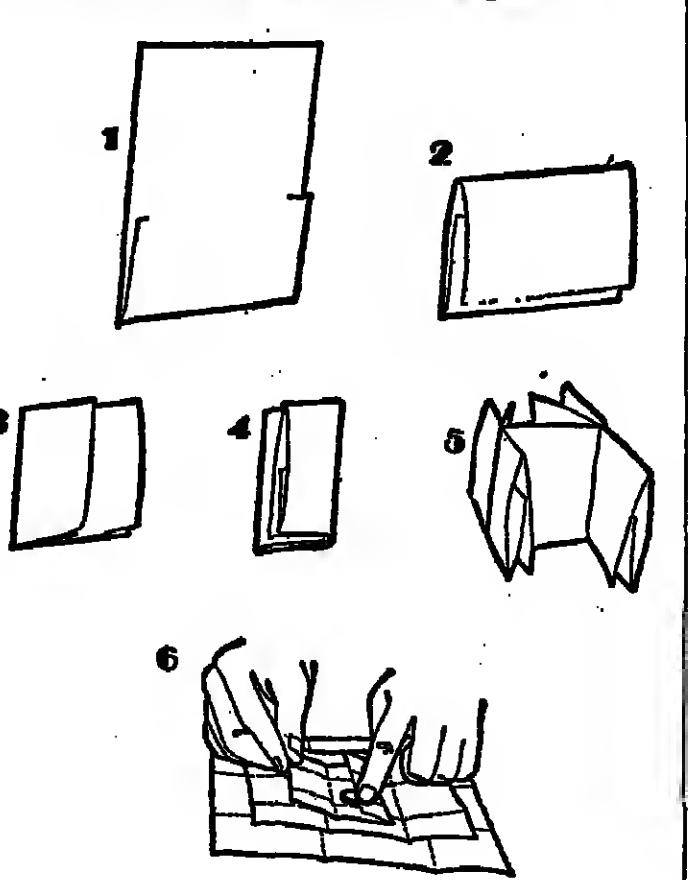
The illusion: A borrowed coin is placed on a piece of paper, which is then folded and placed on another paper. Both papers are folded into a third paper. When they are unfolded, the coin has vanished and in its place is an IOU!

The preparation: You need five sheets of plain paper. Cut one into an 8-1/2" square. Cut two into 6-1/2" squares. Cut two others into 4-1/2" squares.

Take the largest piece and 2" up from the bottom edge, fold the edge up toward the centre (1). Fold the top edge all the way down to meet the bottom crease (2). About 2-1/4" in from the left edge, fold that edge over toward the right (3). Then fold the right edge over to meet the left crease (4).

In the same way, the two smallest pieces are folded up 1/2" from the bottom, and the top edge brought down to meet the bottom crease; then over 3/4" from the left edge, with the right edge folded over to the left crease. Take one of the middle-sized pieces and, at a point 1-1/2" from the bottom edge, fold the bottom edge up toward the centre. Fold the top edge down to meet the bottom crease. At a point 1-1/2" in from the left edge fold it over to the right, and then fold the right edge all the way to the left crease. Do the same with the other middle-sized piece and then glue them back to back. As you do so, make sure that the creases of the smaller flaps are together (5).

Open the two sides of the middle-sized sections and put one of the smallest sections in each one. However, each of the smallest sections is turned over so its solid back is uppermost when you fold the middle section over it. The middle section is then folded inside the large section.



ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION Available

MURQAB, opposite Safat Post Office. A 3-bedroom flat with water, electricity and telephone facility for an Indian family, from April onwards. Tele. 2454134, 4-7pm.

(AT2-41463-3)

SALWA (behind Iraqi shop), House No. 196, Block No. 7. One big room with water, electricity and kitchen facilities for a family/bachelors to share with an Indian family. Bus 34, 102. Rent KD50. Tele. 5611243.

(AT3-41480-3)

SHARQ circle, CAC flat with tele. and food for single Indian Christian girls to share with a small family. Bus routes 1, 26, 19, 109, 32. Tele. Assumpta, 5745638/9.

(AT2-41463-3)

NUGRA, Khalid Street. One big independent furnished room with water, electricity and tele facilities to share with an Indian family for one or two bachelors. Tele. Oberoi, 4740801, off. 264645, res.

(AT3-41476-3)

SALMIYA, main road, Building No. 85, House No. 3, opp. Indian School near Kerala Store. Two rooms available with water and electricity. Bus routes 19 and 30. Rent KD50. Contact after 7.30pm.

(AT4-41512-3)

NEW Kharit, Block 4, Street 128, House 903, near Jelaib Travel, for a small Indian Muslim family or bachelors. Tele. Mr. Layak Ali, tele. 2416884/32/50, 7.30 am - 12.45 pm & 4 - 8.30 pm.

(AT4-41517-3)

For Rent
SURRA, Area 4, Block 245, in front of the Co-op and Alfarsi wedding hall. Deluxe villa: 2 floors, basement, in cream marble and brown granite, suitable for embassy residence. Tele. 2463106, 4-12 pm.

(AT3-41473-3)

For Rent
Fully furnished 1-bedroom apartment with CAC/heating. Fully carpeted, domestic appliances and direct telephone system provided.
Location: Salmiya - Mughira Bin Shaba Street
Contact: John Rodriguez, Telephone: 4843565, 4846175, 4842037
Timing: 8 am to 5 pm - Sat. through Wednesday.

WANTED
1. HVAC Mechanic, with 3 yrs of experience & transferable residence.
2. Driver with transferable residence.
Please contact: 4745235, 4739453.

Required
1. First class aluminium works masters
2. Assistants
Kuwait Towers Aluminium Factory Industrial Area - Shuwaikh
Tel: 4845002

New in town?
Check the classified pages of the Arab Times for used cars, boats, furniture and electronics. The bargains will amaze you.

SALWA, deluxe, CAC, brand new apartment comprising 3 bedrooms, living room, dining room, 2 bathrooms and large fitted kitchen. Rent KD300. Tele. 5391720/5382783.

(AT3-41477-6)

KUWAIT City, Kharafi Building, opp. Ashraf Studio. Independent room for two Indian bachelors or couple sharing with family. Tele. 2414065.

(AT3-41493-3)

IN Jabriya, a flat with 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, large living room. Tele. 5315333 daytime, 5743299 evening.

(AT2-41448-3)

FOR SALE

Boats

ALMAR Hull (Belgian), nineteen feet, 235 HP (American V-8). In good condition (100 running hours). KD1350. Tele. Roger Eley, 4732714/4732490/9020336, 7.30 am - 4.30 pm.

(AT4-41496-3)

SEA Raider, 6 seats, 14 ft, 50 HP Suzuki, complete with ski equipment. In good condition. KD450 or offers. Tele. Dunford, 5314737, after 2 pm.

(AT4-41509-3)

VULCAN GRP racing dinghy, 17ft. All gear including spinnaker, trapeze and 4 HP outboard o/b. In good condition. KD475. Tele. Dunford, 5314737, after 2 pm.

(AT4-41510-3)

Cars

MAZDA 929 box, model 1986, AC, automatic, metallic green, 44,000 kms. In excellent condition. KD1350 to the company. KD75 monthly instalment and KD850 for the owner. Tele. 5613123, after 3.30 pm.

(AT3-41479-3)

MERCEDES 450SLC, 1979 model, AC, automatic, sunroof and television, in excellent condition. KD3000. Best offer. Cash. Tele. Joe, 3717691, 2-8 pm.

(AT3-41480-3)

Al-Widat Int'l. Exchange Est.
Dawhah Commercial Centre behind K.A.C. Bldg.
Door to door services all over Philippines
PERA, BAGAHE AT IBA PA
Special delivery 12:00 Hrs. 24:00 Hrs. 48:00 Hrs.
Ordinary delivery 3 to 5 days
Contact tel. No. 2437791, Marie

MINISUBISHI Cordia, 1983, automatic, 67,000 km in excellent condition. KD600. Tele. Peter, 5333438, after 4 pm.

(AT2-41447-3)

SAPPORO 82 model, manual gear, AC, reg. till 89, best offer. Re-advertised due to time waster. Interested parties only tele. 4894315, 9.30 am - 12 noon only.

(AT4-41500-2)

PONTIAC Grand Prix, 1978, automatic, 40,000 miles, in excellent condition. KD500. Tele. Peter, 5333438, after 4 pm.

(AT2-41448-3)

NISSAN Pulsar, 1983, A/C, automatic, white. In excellent condition. KD550. Tele. Ahmed, 2445525 after 7 pm.

(AT2-41458-3)

RENAULT-21, 1988 model, zero mileage, automatic. Best offer. Tele. Er. Muna Oudeh, 2467200, weekdays 7.30 am - 2.30 pm.

(AT2-41464-3)

CRESSIDA, 1987 model, AC, manual, white, 2000 km, in excellent condition. KD2600 cash. Tele. Rolando, 5754202 after 2 pm.

(AT3-41468-3)

PONTIAC, Trans-Am 1981 model, AC, fully automatic, gold, in very good condition. KD850 cash. Tel. 3900280, 4-8 pm.

(AT3-41472-3)

MINISUBISHI Galant GLS. Purchased in Dec 1987 registered upto Dec 1990. Fully automatic, 6,800 kms in good condition. Best offer. Tele. Joe, 2403600, 9 am - 1 pm, 4-8 pm.

(AT3-41478-3)

NISSAN Liberta 1984, fully automatic, dark colour. In excellent condition. KD850 ono. Tele. Artin, 2431126, during office hrs.

(AT4-41498-3)

HONDA Prelude, 1982, AC, automatic, dark blue, sunroof. Owner leaving Kuwait. Rumaitha, Opp Junior Indian School, Awwaj Bldg. 1607, Flat 7, KD400/- cash. Tele. 5617910.

(AT4-41514-3)

Register for DB III + course now
Kood Computers Rehab Complex, Hawail, Tel: 2668800

BARBER CHAIR
This bucket-seated beauty is a triumph of design. Its stick shift control gives instant rotation, locking, elevation, reclining action.



Agent and distributor:
Mohammed N. Al-Hajery & Sons
Tel: 2432298, 2434466

REQUIRED
For leading contracting company
General Manager
with 15 years of experience in the same position, should be highly experienced in pricing of tenders.
CV with application to be addressed to:
P.O. Box 21225 Safat
P.C. 13073 Safat, Kuwait.

MARKET PLACE

CHEVROLET Impala 79 model, AC, automatic, green. In good condition. KD450 cash. Tele. Mr. Siva, 5619758/9/805, 7 am - 6 pm.

(AT4-41504-6)

OPEL Rekord 1985, beige, AC, automatic, PVV, stereo, one owner from new, in excellent condition throughout. KD1,650 negotiable. Cash. Tele. Ayman, 2438701, 8 am - 5 pm.

(AT3-41491-3)

PEUGEOT 505 GL 1987, manual, maroon, 31,000 kms. Owner leaving Kuwait. In excellent condition. KD2600 cash. Tele. 5626357, 4-8 pm.

(AT4-41497-3)

NISSAN Liberta Stanza, 1983 model, automatic, AC, registered till 8/3/1989. In very good condition. KD400/- cash. Tele. Mohamed, 2415865, 8.30 am - 1 pm, 4.30 - 7.30 pm.

(AT4-41507-3)

NISSAN Liberta Stanza, 1983 model, automatic, AC, registered till 8/3/1989. In very good condition. KD400/- cash. Tele. Mohamed, 2415865, 8.30 am - 1 pm, 4.30 - 7.30 pm.

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(AT4-41507-3)

HITACHI split units, 4 pieces, other electrical items, furniture and many other household items. Tele. Nimer Yousef, 2610025, 5617902, 2-5 pm.

(AT4-41505-3)

NIKONOS IV A + SB101 flash KD150, Rollei projector + screen KD40, Daeco ABLI KD30, wet suit KD20, regulator + gauges KD30, aluminium 80 cu ft KD45, weights etc. Tele. Martin Gordon, 4887407, 5-11 pm.

(AT2-41455-3)

YAMAHA piano in very good condition, KD475, unused. Brown. Surfcat wind sailer, KD160, CR125 Honda dirtbike in good condition, KD150. Tele. 5313042, 8 am - 12 noon.

(AT2-41452-3)

MISTRAL windsurf in excellent condition with harness, wetsuit, roof rack, surfing shoes and an extra sail. Tele. 3945500/8, Room 73.

(AT4-41465-3)

KAWAI Electronic organ, model E650DX, sparingly used. In showroom condition. Tele. 3916159, 1-3 pm.

(AT4-41508-6)

JABRIYA - one bedroom, CAC flat for rent KD140 with furniture and telephone - quick sale. Tele. 5339186 after 7 pm 5638707, 3-5 pm.

(AT2-41444-3)

FRIDGE KD25, freezer KD35, cooker KD30, book shelves KD15, display cabinets KD10, carpet, curtains etc. Tele. Mr. David 2455315 morning, 2404870 evening.

(AT4-41511-3)

RM250 watercooled Suzuki 1983, KD280. Many extra parts. Tele. Joe, 3717691.

(AT3-41489-3)

TWIN baby trolley, top quality "Bebecar", brand new, recline/sitting, front or back facing, independent adjustment. Converts to a single, KD55 ono. Tele. 3727361.

(AT2-41454-3)

NATIONAL desert cooler, unused, electrical appliances, wardrobe and new carpet. Tele. F. Devas, 2413757.

(AT4-41513-2)

UPRIGHT piano for sale - in good condition, also a National A2 video camera set. Tele. 5384445.

(AT2-41462-3)

FOR RENT
Villas, fully furnished in Mishref - KD 700/- Apartments in Jabriya - 3 rooms, CAC, KD 400/-
Tel: 2429380-2457834.

Wanted
Expert tailor
Preferably knowing to cut & sew.
Contact tel: 2430969

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Contact tel: 2430969

PETS

WANTED for a Chinese female pug, company of a male Chinese pug with marriage and family life in mind. Tele. 5659951, 12 noon - 6 pm.

(AT4-41516-3)

SERVICES

Tuition

ARABIC and Maths up to XI standard (Indian) O and A level (British). Intensive coaching offered. Tele. 2414730.

(AT4-41501-2)

Transport

REQUIRED from Jabriya, (Fourth Ring Road) to Salmiya, and Salmiya to Jabriya, Jabriya to Salmiya 1 pm Salmiya to Jabriya 3.45 pm. Tele. Gill, 5615887, after 7.30 pm only.

(AT4-41502-3)

REQUIRED from Sharq to Sabhan, behind Kufuma. Office time: 7 am - 4 pm. Tele. Abdul Jalil Kazi, 2469005, 7.30 am - 1 pm.

(AT4-41499-3)

REQUIRED from Hilton to Joint Banking Complex at 8 am and 12.30 pm and 3.30 - 8.30 pm. Tele. 2433629, 9 am - 12 noon, 4.30 - 8 pm.

(AT3-41482-3)

AVAILABLE from Farwaniya to Kuwait City, for ladies only 8 am - 12.30 pm and 3.30 - 8.30 pm. Tele. 2433629, 9 am - 12 noon, 4.30 - 8 pm.

(AT3-41482-3)

AVAILABLE from Farwaniya to Kuwait City, for ladies only 8 am - 12.30 pm and 3.30 - 8.30 pm. Tele. 2

منگل ۲۲ مارچ ۱۹۸۸ء۔ شعبان ۱۴۰۸ھ چیف ایڈیٹر محمد فاروق

کافی ملک کی خدمت میں باہم کردار انجام دے چکے ہیں۔ انہیں صحافیوں کے لئے ایوارڈ کے اعزاز میں جلی منتقل کیا۔

حقائق کے لئے موقوفہ سے ایک ایوارڈ انہوں نے ملکا کے

کے لئے ان کی صحافتی سرگرمیوں اور خدمتوں کی اعتراف کی خدمت

کے لئے اس کی صحافتی سرگرمیوں اور خدمتوں کی اعتراف کی خدمت

پارے سے موسیقی گرافک ایوارڈ کے لئے ان کے لئے

کے لئے ان کی صحافتی سرگرمیوں اور خدمتوں کی اعتراف کی خدمت

میں کرشمہ ذہن رکھنے والے ایک شخص ہیں۔ ان کی صحافتی

عالم اسلام فلسطینی تحریک کی حمایت کرے

انتخابی اجلاس سے اردن کے شاہ حسین کا خطاب

عمان - امرمربع (گلوبل پب) اسلامی کانفرنس
عظیم کے دوران عمان میں منعقد ہونے والے اجلاس انچام جنیوہ
مغربی علاقوں میں فلسطینی تحریک کی حمایت کے لیے موانع کے
کی کوہنہ کے لیے فلسطینی صوبہ اور فلسطینی صوبہ کی حمایت
کی کوہنہ کے لیے فلسطینی صوبہ اور فلسطینی صوبہ کی حمایت

ہفتہ کے روز ایران کے جزیرہ خرمی آئل ڈریمیل پر کئے جانے والے حملے میں دو نوٹینکروں کے علی کے صرف چار فلیگٹی اڑان کو بیجا یا جاسکا، تین پیش پرموجہ و بیشتر ایرانی علی کے لٹاؤ کی خبریں بھلاک ہوئے والوں میں سوئیڈن کا ایک اخبار بھی شامل ہے

بھارتی پولیس نے

نہایت حاصل کر لی ہے اور اس کی مدد کر کے ملا سچے رکھتے ہیں۔ اسرائیلی ریزے یوپی ہائیڈرو کے حوالے سے جو شایعہ کہ سب سے قریبی مسجد ہیں، گماکار

مسئلہ افغانستان پر چین و انڈیا کے اثرات آج پھر شروع ہو گئے

پونڈیشیں ہزاروں آدمی لکھن کھنڈ غمی میں ہوا۔

راجپوت گاندھی نے مٹی کے تودے

گاڑیاں تباہ ہو گئیں

نہ خانے اور چار دیگر مقامات پر راکٹوں سے حملہ 'متعد

باقی دوسرے صفحہ پر

رہنے کے لئے مکان کو آگ لگا دی تھی
 بلاک کر دیا گیا۔ دوسرا حملہ جس کی اطلاع میں ہوا تھا
 گاؤں میں کیا گیا جس کے دوران دو دستوں میں مسلح افراد ہلاک

ایکسی خاندان کے چھ افراد کو قتل
 نئی دہلی ۲۱ مارچ (ایپ) بھارتی صوبہ پنجاب
 میں کوہستان پھولوں نے تین مختلف حلوں میں کم از کم

ہونے والے قصاصات کی رقم کو کھانی - سفار خانے کی اس عمارت کے گرد و خاں دو تہوں کی بارہ کی ہوئی ہے اور پولیس کی سٹاکز میں مستقل رہے پر ہوئی ہیں۔ دوسری

پاکستانی سینٹ میں مسلم لیگ جماعت کو قطعی اکثریت حاصل ہو گئی

ج کو پوری طرح چوکنا کر دیا

باقی دوسرے صفحہ پر

شمالی کوریانے اپنی تمام

امیر کی فوج نے انکار اگوا کی سرحد کے قریب پڑاؤ ڈال دیا۔

کتابخانه

اسی وقت کے قدامت کے جانے سے۔ شریک جنگ
 خفا میں جھپٹی کر لیا کہ ایک لاکھ چار ہزار امریکہ
 کے ساتھ ہزار فوجی حملے میں ہے جو "کمپین" کے
 نام سے مشہور ہے جاری ہے۔ اس نوعیت کی شریک

بلجئم میں چار ملزموں کے قبضہ سے
دو سو کلو گرام حبش برآمد
ہوئے۔ (امریکی رابرٹ بلجئم کی پولیس)

پاکستان کے وزیر پٹرولیم کا دورہ
سعودی عرب

۳۳۔ ۱۹۷۱ء میں چوتھوں پر امرہ کی جارحانہ حرکت کے نتیجے میں پاکستان نے اپنی شاندار شہادت کیلئے اس مقام پر کر کے پاکستان چاروں میں امرہ سے جنگ کی اور ۱۳ دسمبر کو امرہ کی اوسط جنگ دیکھ کر یہ امر ۱۹۷۱ء میں چین و کشمیر پر ۱۳ دسمبر کو

100

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Azinger runs away with Classic title

ORLANDO, Florida, March 21. (Reuters): American Paul Azinger fired a brilliant five-under-par 66 yesterday to run away from the field and capture the \$750,000 Bay Hill Classic with a 13-under-par 271 total.

Azinger, who began the round one shot ahead of compatriot Tom Kite, duelled with his nearest competitor throughout the first 12 holes before finally pulling away to a five-shot win despite a final hole bogey.

For Azinger it was his fourth career title and with it went a first prize cheque for \$135,000.

He led by a single shot through six holes, but recorded birdies on six of the next eight holes to pull away from Kite who finished at eight-under par 276 and earned \$81,000.

Three times in that stretch, Azinger answered Kite's birdies with one of his own and he salted away the win by chipping in from 30 feet on the 14th hole for a birdie while Kite was struggling to a bogey four.

David Frost of South Africa, second here last year, finished in a tie for third place with American Andrew Magee at four-under-par 280.

Closed
Frost finished the day with a two-under-par 69 over the 7,100 yard Bay Hill course while Magee closed with an even par 71.

Don Pooley of the United States, who made a million dollar hole-in-one here last year, was fifth at three-under-par 281 while defending champ and compatriot Payne Stewart finished in a tie for sixth place at two-under-par 282.

Greg Norman of Australia tied for 11th place with Americans Dave Barr, Ben Crenshaw and Griff Rudolph. Norman had a final round of four-under-par 67 at 283 total.

Briton Sandy Lyle was next with a 284 total while compatriot Ian Woosnam and Japan's Tommy Nakajima were two shots further back at 285.

Davies captures Tucson Open

TUCSON, Arizona, March 21. (Reuters): Laura Davies birdied the final hole to snap a tie with American Robin Walton and win the \$300,000 LPGA Tucson Open golf tournament yesterday by one stroke.

Davies started the day with a two-stroke lead over Patty Sheehan of the United States and by the fourth hole had stretched that lead to five shots.

Davies birdied the first three holes but ran into trouble on the sixth with a bogey and finished the front nine with a bogey.

She continued to slide with a bogey on the 10th and 17th holes and went to the 18th tied with Walton.

Walton had trouble on the front nine making the turn at two-over-par. But she got hot on the back nine making birdies on the 13th, 14th, 16th and 17th to tie for the lead.

Oxford triumph

OXFORD, Cricket Club scored their 10th consecutive win when they defeated Diamond Cricket Club by 55 runs in a friendly match at the Kuma ground on Friday.

Oxford, batting first, scored 190 for the loss of seven wickets. Zahid was the top scorer with 80. Ali hit 42 and Tahir 38.

In reply, Diamond were all out for 135. Afzal and Liaquat were the top scorers with 39 and 29 respectively. Tahir and Ali took four wickets each.

Mayotte and Sabatini upset in Players tourney

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida, March 21. (Reuters): Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union upset Tim Mayotte and Argentina's Gabriela Sabatini was ousted by Mary Joe Fernandez in fourth round play yesterday at the \$2.1 million International Players Championships.

Chesnokov, seeded 19th, beat the fourth seeded American, 6-0 6-7 6-2 4-6 6-3 and will face sixth seeded Frenchman Yannick Noah in the quarterfinals.

Noah easily defeated unseeded American Joey Rive 6-2 6-3 6-2 in another fourth round match.

Took
Sabatini, the third seed, lost to 16-year-old Fernandez, seeded 15th, 6-4 6-7 6-3.

"She did everything well," said Sabatini, who later celebrated a doubles victory with partner Steffi Graf of West Germany, which took her over \$1 million mark in career earnings.

Chesnokov came out firing against Mayotte, winning the first eight games, before the American could find his rhythm. The Russian missed a chance to serve out the second set when he led 5-4 in the tiebreaker with two serves to come.

But Mayotte stepped up his net attack, and won three consecutive points to take the set 7-6 as Chesnokov netted a forehand.

UNDISPUTED CHAMPION FINISHES FIGHT IN 2ND ROUND

Tyson KO's Tubbs to retain world title

TOKYO, March 21. (Reuters): Undisputed world heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson knocked out Tony Tubbs in the second round of their title fight in Tokyo today to retain his title.

Tyson, 21, felled the older and heavier Tubbs with a ferocious left hook two minutes and 54 seconds into the second round of the fight in front of 51,000 people at Tokyo's Big Egg stadium.

It was Tyson's 34th victory and his 30th knockout. He is still unbeaten.

The three judges, one American and two Japanese, scored the first round as a draw. But in the second round, Tyson suddenly over-powered Tubbs, 30, with a series of well-placed punches to the head and body.

Took
Tyson is estimated to have earned between \$5 million and \$10 million from the fight, while Tubbs took home \$500,000.

Asked later how he felt, Tyson said: "It was just another fight. I was hoping to get it over with quick."

"Tubbs was fast but I avoided the punches and came back at him," he added.

The outcome had been widely expected because of Tubbs's consistent problems with weight.

At every public appearance, he looked to be losing the battle of the bulge and by yesterday's weigh-in it was evident he had taken a dive on the dieting front.

The bout, the first heavyweight title fight to be staged in Japan since 1973, looked like it might be a good fight, for exactly one round.



Tubbs (right) falls on the canvas after being hit by Tyson. (Reuters wirephoto)

Tubbs started well, landing several lefts to Tyson's head, which Tyson matched with blows and upper cuts to Tubbs's body. Both men frequently resorted to clinches.

At the end of the round, one judge scored it 10-9 for Tubbs, one 10-9 for Tyson, and the third 10-11.

But in the second round, Tyson's youth, speed and stamina began to show to their best advantage against Tubbs, who at 108 kg was some three kg above his own fight target of 105 kg.

Tubbs scored some blows at the beginning of the round, but then Tyson came in with a flurry of punches including upper-cuts to the body and a left hook to the head.

The weary Tubbs stumbled to a neutral corner, then fell, bleeding from a cut above his right eye. Two minutes and 54 seconds into the second round, Tubbs's trainer, O'Del Hadley, jumped into the ring and threw in the towel.

Tubbs got up a few moments later and left the ring under his own power, his white red-trimmed trunks spattered with blood.

Asked to describe the impact of fellow-American Tubbs's punches, Tyson said dismissively: "none whatsoever."

Robinson Givens is all smiles as she meets her husband, Tyson, wearing a Japanese headband after the fight. (Reuters wirephoto)



Tyson raises his arms after knocking out Tubbs. (Reuters wirephoto)



Robinson Givens is all smiles as she meets her husband, Tyson, wearing a Japanese headband after the fight. (Reuters wirephoto)

Tyson's next scheduled defence is June 27 against American Michael Spinks. He is expected to take on Britain's Frank Bruno on September 3 and battle an as yet unknown opponent in November or December.

All are part of a package worth \$26.5 million for six defences. The Tubbs fight was the second in that series.

Asked about plans after that, Tyson said, "I'll be 22 then. I might still want to fight."

Although the fight was sponsored by the WBA and World Boxing Council (WBC), it was not sanctioned by the International Boxing Federation (IBF). The IBF is not recognised by Japan's boxing authorities.

IBF officials had said they would strip their title from Tyson if he did not wear their belt into the ring.

Threat
Tyson's managers doubted the IBF would carry out the threat. Tyson said: "If it is stripped, I'll win it back."

Tyson now has 34 victories in as many professional fights, 30 by knockouts.

Tubbs, who did not meet the press after the bout, has 23 wins in 25 fights.

His sister, Rhonda Tubbs, told Reuters he was not seriously hurt and had wanted to continue the match, but that trainer Hadley felt the fight should stop.

Despite some complaints by the Tubbs camp in past days over financial and other aspects of its treatment, she said no protests were planned.

Tubbs's lawyer Curtis Crawford told Reuters ahead of the fight that Tubbs would get a \$50,000 bonus promised for his being in good shape and said the Tubbs camp was satisfied with the compensation thus far for expenses.

Celtics rout Bulls for playoff berth

BOSTON, March 21. (AP): Larry Bird scored 33 points and Boston's defense contained Michael Jordan as the Celtics defeated the Chicago Bulls 137-107 yesterday, clinching a National Basketball Association playoff berth.

Jordan, who scored 50 points in a 113-103 Chicago victory over Boston Friday night, had 26 in the rematch. With the Bulls leading 77-75, he went to the bench after picking up his fourth foul midway through the third period.

The Celtics built a 95-85 lead by the end of the quarter. Boston's final 30-point margin was accomplished with a 42-point fourth quarter, only two less than the Bulls' total in the second half.

Kevin McHale scored 29 points and Robert Parish had 18 for Boston, which has won seven of its last eight games.

Pacers 102, Nets 96
Steve Stipanovich scored 10 of his 24 points in the fourth quarter and grabbed 10 rebounds as the Indiana Pacers survived a late New Jersey rally to beat the Nets 102-96.

The victory snapped a four-game road losing streak by the Pacers. New Jersey lost for the fifth time in its past six games under new coach Willis Reed.

The Pacers led by as many as 11 points midway through the fourth period, but the Nets cut the deficit to 91-86 with 2:21 remaining on a basket by Roy Hinson, who led the Nets with 22 points and 10 rebounds.

Stipanovich, who hit 10 of 12 shots from the field, responded with two straight baskets. After Hinson scored on a rebound, Stipanovich added another basket to make it 97-88 with 1:08 left.

Nuggets 106, Sonics 95
Michael Adams scored 27 points and Alex English had 22, leading Denver to a 108-95 victory over Seattle and clinching a playoff berth for the Nuggets.

Adams led the Nuggets in scoring for the third straight game and had a key 3-point basket with 4:09 left that opened a 94-89 lead. He has had a 3-pointer in 26 consecutive games, extending his own NBA record.

Denver trailed 83-82 when Seattle's Tom Chambers scored with 7:41 to play. The Nuggets then took the lead for good on a three-point play by T.R. Dunn, his only points of the game, at the 7:15 mark.

Dale Ellis led Seattle with 23 points and Xavier McDaniel had 21.

Pistons 118, Bulls 110
In Pontiac, Michigan, Joe Dumars scored 15 of his 25 points in the first quarter and Detroit extended its club record home-court winning streak to 17 games. The Pistons, who have won six straight games overall, took the lead for good 8-6 on a basket by Dumars, whose 25 points tied his season high.

Adrian Dantley added 23 and Isiah Thomas 19 for Detroit. Jeff Malone had 39 points for Washington and Moses Malone added 24 as the Bulls lost their third straight game and dropped one-half game behind the third-place New York in the Atlantic Division.

Results
Boston 137 Chicago 107
Indiana 102 New Jersey 96
Denver 108 Seattle 95
Detroit 118 Washington 110
Portland 105 Dallas 99
L.A. Clippers 116 Sacramento 112
L.A. Lakers 130 Golden State 127

Bawa and Ashraf to lead veterans

THE Kuwait Cricket League yesterday announced the names of captains and their sides for the veterans cricket match to be played at KCL ground (NC) on Friday, March 25. The match will start at 9.30 am.

A large number of cricket fans are expected to watch the game including the ambassadors of various cricket playing countries.

The Indian veterans side will be led by Bawa Singh while Ashraf Khan will lead Pakistan veterans. Umpires will be Ali Rizvi from Pakistan and Grover from India.

The teams are as follows:
INDIAN VETERANS: Bawa Singh (captain), P.K. Merwa (vice-captain), B.N. Malhotra, D.N. Arora, Rajpal Tayagi, S.K. Khullar, K.S. Sethi, H.S. Gupta,



Bawa Singh
A.K. Gupta, S.S.N. Gangu, Ravi Anantaraman, C.M. Sahani, M.M. Joshi, A.K. Chandhok, C.K.V. Raman, G.L. Bhavia and T.K. Behram.



Ashraf Khan
ullah Shaikh, Sajid Rizvi, Salim Pervez, Younis Chaudry, Kh. Afzal, Ashraf Kamal, Mushtaq Malik, Jaffer Beg, Afzal Chughtai, Ahmed Hussain, Iltat Hussain, Ch. Javed, A.B.S. Jaffery, Iqbal Zaidi, Khalid Jamil and Abdullah Iraqi.

Kifco outclass Starlite to win Gulf Air Trophy



Aqeel (right) receives the trophy from Saleh Al Kindy.

KIFCO beat Starlite comprehensively to avenge an earlier defeat and also clinch the Gulf Air Cricket Trophy at the KCL ground on Friday.

Kifco opted to bat first after winning the toss and opened their innings through Nasir and Tariq Anjum. The openers gave a good start to Kifco with Tariq dominating the stand as 72 runs were put on for the first wicket. Tariq hit 61 off only 44 balls.

Added
Azam lost his wicket for 18 with the score at 108 but Shahid Pervez and Nasir added 55 runs for the third wicket before the latter was out for 48. Shahid kept his end intact and the runs kept flowing from his bat but he was unfortunate to miss his century when he was out for 90. Kifco went on to score 277.

For Starlite, Sobhai, Zia, Ilyas and Arshad took two wickets each.

Starlite met an early setback when they lost their first two wickets with the score only 36. Arif hit 69 but with his dismissal the wickets started falling at regular intervals and Starlite were all out for 219.

For Kifco, skipper Aqeel Ashraf was the most successful bowler with three wickets for 22 while Mansoor Khan, Shahzad, Azam, Maqsood and Shahid Pervez chipped in with a wicket each.

Saleh Al Kindy, the Gulf Air general manager for Kuwait, gave away the prizes. Shahid Pervez took the Man of the Match award.

YMCA outlast YBCC

YMCA scored a 28-run victory over Young Brothers Cricket Club (YBCC) in a challenge match at the Yarmouk Cricket Ground on Friday.

Batting first, YMCA scored 135 for the loss of eight wickets in their 23 overs. Ibrar was the top scorer for his team with 43. The other batsmen to reach the double figures were Rafiq 30, Parker with an unbeaten 16 and Satyen 12.

For YBCC, Nadeem took two wickets for 34, Donald two for 18, Aul two for 34 and Azal two for 19.

YBCC found the going tough when they started to bat. The YMCA bowlers kept to an accurate line and length and they were well supported by all the fielders. Maxie took an excellent catch and also had a hand in two run-outs.

YBCC were finally able to only make 107. Mirza scored 28 and Srinivasan 16. The wicket-takers for YMCA were Ibrar with two for eight, Abhasingh two for 18, Parker two for 17, Satyen one for 21 and Peter one for 30.

Johnsen finishes on top

HOLMENKOLLEN, Norway, March 21. (AP): Olympic silver medalist Erik Johnsen of Norway and compatriot Ole Gunnar Fidjestøl, the world ski flying champion, mastered snow, wind and fog yesterday to finish 1-2 in the 90-metre World Cup ski jumping competition.

It was Norway's first double in the Holmenkollen Hill since 1979 and its first victory since Steinar Braaten won in 1983.

Johnsen's jumps of 97 and 105.5 metres were the longest in both rounds of jumps and gave him 217.2 points.

Placed
Runner-up Fidjestøl had 202.0 points for 94.5-metre and 103-metre jumps.

Guenther Stranner of Austria, with jumps of 90 and 102 metres, placed third with 194.3 points.

Ladislav Dluhos of Czechoslovakia came fourth with 192.9 points. He jumped 89 metres in the first round to be preliminary 14th. But he added the second longest jump of the day with 104.5 metres in the second round.

Thomas Klausner of West Germany placed fifth with 190.9 points for jumps of 91.5 and 102 metres.

Andi Felder of Austria, who won last year, barely qualified for the second round for the 50 best first-round jumpers. Felder jumped 84 and 86 metres.

Triple Olympic champion Matti Nykanen of Finland, who has clinched the world cup title, placed 17th with two mediocre jumps.

Other Norwegian jumpers, who were familiar with the special jumping conditions in a hill known as "the cradle of ski jumping," also did well.

Vegard Opaas, last year's World Cup winner, placed sixth; Hroar Stjernen seventh and Jan Henrik Troen eighth.

Heinz Kuttin of Austria, the world junior champion, placed ninth with 188 points on jumps of 91.5 and 98 metres. He held fourth place after the first round but dropped five places in the second.

Casuals edge past NBK in friendly

CASUALS warmed up to a tough finale to their season by just edging NBK in an exciting friendly at Alhadi on Friday.

NBK won the toss and Shabbir (11) and Ejaz (23) soon found trouble from the pace attack of Snowden and Anderson, who respectively claimed their wickets.

However, Andrew Pinho (61) and Sai (33) began hitting the ball all over the ground until Pinho was brilliantly caught by Anderson off the bowling of Stafford. Ashfaq (18) began to look at ease until Bond took a spectacular catch off a long hop from Clements.

Just as NBK seemed set to launch a final onslaught they were beguiled by the spin of Wells, who clean bowled Miraj and then had Thomas stumped. Downock also weighed in with two wickets to leave NBK with 185 runs from 30 overs.

Fast
In reply, Casuals chose to open with Lewis (23) and Akram (28) who started the innings on a fast note. Earnest Harry (8) shone briefly and kept the pace of the innings up.

The required rate dropped when Clements (22) found it hard to make contact but Dorwick (36) and then Bond (19) pushed the score along. Things were finally balanced when Anderson entered the fray but a quick-fire 34 more than made up for his bowling and pushed Casuals to victory.

Skipper chose not to bat but commended NBK for a most sporting game.



● The Kuwait Nomads who went on a mini-rugby tour of Bahrain recently. The team performed quite well in their matches. The boys went on the tour, which is an annual fixture, with their parents.

SPORTS

IMRAN HIT FOR 76 RUNS OFF EIGHT OVERS

West Indies take Pakistan to task

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, March 21. (Reuters): A blistering opening stand of 112 in only 12 overs by stand-in skipper Gordon Greenidge and Phil Simmons presented the West Indies with a seven-wicket win over Pakistan in yesterday's fourth nine-day cricket international.

West Indies reached what seemed a formidable target of 272 runs with 2.5 overs to spare and gained a 4-0 lead in the five-match series.

Brilliant
Greenidge's 66, scored off only 51 balls, was a memorable innings, which included seven fours and three sixes, all straight driven. He was at his brilliant best and in the sort of brutal mood which can make him quite impossible to dismiss.

Rarely can Pakistan captain Imran Khan have been hit for 52 off his opening six overs. He ultimately conceded 76 off eight and suffered the insult of being hit clean over the mid-wicket stand by Carlisle Best, deputising for the injured Desmond Haynes.

Greenidge was deservedly named Man of the Match, although Richie Richardson, with 79 on his side, contributed an aggressive 49 in 52 balls, including one enormous six off Abdul



Greenidge: Man of the Match

more in the series. Simmons contributed an aggressive 49 in 52 balls, including one enormous six off Abdul

Qadir over long-on that cleared the stand and went into the car park beyond.

The only Pakistani howlers

who were able remotely to stem the run flow were Qadir and Hafiz Shahid, who took two for 56 in only his second nine-day international.

Shahid, with an action not unlike paceman Malcolm Marshall, induced Greenidge to play on in his first over and Simmons to give a catch to wicket-keeper Salim Yousuf.

Pakistan's total of 271 for six, their highest-ever against the West Indies in a one-day international, was based on a fine opening partnership of 109 in 17 overs between Rameez Raja (71) and debutant Minul Atiq (46).

Rameez's 67-ball innings was characterised by some classic straight driving. After hitting 10 fours and a six, he was caught by Greenidge at mid-wicket off Patrick Patterson, who later picked up the wickets of Javed Miandad (59) and Ejaz Ahmed (19), both caught in the deep.

But Javed handed out some heavy punishment to Patterson, hitting him for three sixes over the leg side boundary. The Jamaican was once again the most expensive West Indian bowler, conceding 77 off nine overs, although Winston Benjamin was severely dealt with by Rameez, conceding 31 in his first three overs.

Scoreboard

PAKISTAN:

Rameez Raja c Greenidge b Patterson	71
Minul Atiq c Greenidge b Gray	46
Salim Malik b Gray	26
Javed Miandad c Richardson b Patterson	59
Imran Khan c sub b Benjamin	16
Ejaz Ahmed c Gray b Patterson	19
Salim Shahid not out	8
Hafiz Shahid not out	2
Extras (b-3 lb-15 w-1 nb-5)	24
Total (six wickets, 43 overs)	271
Did not bat: Shoaib Mohammad, Abdul Qadir, Zakir Khan.	
Fall of wickets: 1-109 2-139 3-160 4-194 5-256 6-256.	
Bowling: Patterson 9-0-77-3 (nb-5), Walsh 9-0-43-0 (w-1), Gray 10-0-45-2, Benjamin 8-0-58-1, Hooper 7-0-30-0.	

WEST INDIES:

G. Greenidge b Shahid	66
P. Simmons c Yousuf b Shahid	49
R. Richardson not out	79
G. Logie c and b Malik	29
C. Best not out	32
Extras (b-4 lb-7 w-3 nb-3)	17
Total (three wickets, 40.1 overs)	272
Did not bat: C. Hooper, J. Dujon, W. Benjamin, T. Gray, C. Walsh, P. Patterson.	
Bowling: Imran 8-0-76-0 (w-2), Zakir 6-0-49-0 (nb-1), Qadir 10-0-42-6, Shahid 9-1-1-56-2, Malik 4-0-23-1, Mohammad 3-0-15-0.	

defensive holes.

Seconds before the interval, Nigeria nearly took the lead when star striker Rashidi Yekini — who is being sought by a trio of top West German clubs — advanced out of midfield to line up a shot for Henry Nwosu from 25 metres.

The ball spun across the ground, but Shubair dived to his right to push it for a corner.

In the earlier game, Cameroon failed to impress and raised doubts over how they would deal with double World Cup finalists Algeria.

Lacking finishing power, a subdued side never really looked like scoring and were often in danger of a surprise defeat.

After the game, star goal keeper Joseph-Antoine Bell told reporters:

"We played very badly, but sometimes it is good to have a small match before a big one."

Egypt's elimination must leave a question mark over the future of British manager Mike Smith who was the target of fierce press criticism before the tournament began.

Smith was accused of introducing British-style 'long-hall' tactics alien to the Egyptian game.

W. Australia poised for victory

PERTH, Western Australia, March 21. (Reuters): Western Australia swing bowler Terry Alderman wrecked Queensland's second innings today to leave the home side poised for victory on the fourth day of the five-day Sheffield Shield cricket final.

Alderman took six for 91 off 28 overs as Queensland, seeking to win the Shield for the first time, collapsed to 216 in their second innings.

Western Australia, needing 162 in more than eight hours to win the Shield for the 11th time, were 71 for no wicket in their second innings at the close.

Queensland's hopes at the start of the day rested squarely with England all-rounder Ian Botham and former Test batsman Greg Ritchie.

Ritchie was soon out for 34 but Botham batted with great responsibility, scoring 54 off 141 deliveries in 183 minutes, before he was caught at first slip pushing forward to Alderman.

His innings had included seven boundaries and he had added 74 in 113 minutes for the sixth wicket with Trevor Hohns.

Nigeria knock Egypt out of Cup

RABAT, March 21. (Reuters): Nigeria's Green Eagles clinched the last Africa Nations Cup and eliminated defending champions Egypt by playing the Egyptians to a 0-0 draw to win Group B yesterday.

Nigeria, the surprise team of this year's competition, will meet Algeria who pipped Ivory Coast in a potluck draw to take second place in the tough Group A, played in Casablanca.

The game takes place in Rabat on Wednesday.

Travel
Cameroon's Indomitable Lions — who appear in the semifinals for the third time running after drawing 0-0 with Kenya in the first of yesterday's matches — travel to Casablanca to meet Group A winners Morocco, also on Wednesday.

After losing their first match against Cameroon, the Pharaohs needed to win against Nigeria to go through, but were unable to break down a solid defence despite a frantic last 15 minutes.

With the title slipping out of their grasp, Egypt besieged the Nigerian goal, but too often the final pass went astray.



Hassan (left) tries to move past Nigeria's Odegbani Wole. (Reuters wirephoto)

As the game entered its last quarter, attacking full-back Ibrahim Hassan missed one of the best chances of the game. He picked up a loose ball in a packed penalty box, but missed the target by more than a metre.

Then with only five minutes to go, Hassan was again in the thick of the action. He broke out of defence on a long run down the left wing and sent over a good cross to create an amazing goal-mouth scramble.

As the ball hobbled about on the goal line, both attackers and defenders failed to make contact and goalkeeper Peter Rufai finally smothered the danger.

The early exchanges saw few clear cut chances. Both goalkeepers, Rufai and his Egyptian counterpart Ahmed Shubair, had little trouble dealing with anything that came their way.

Both sides played direct, attacking football, but Egypt's strikers were constantly foiled by the speed with which the Green Eagles were able to plug any

Porto open gap at top

LISBON, March 21. (Reuters): Porto beat Setubal 1-0 in the Portuguese First Division yesterday to open up an eight-point lead over European Cup semifinalists Benfica who could only draw 1-1 against Chaves.

Porto midfielder Antonio Sousa scored with a 34th minute penalty, the home side's second of the match. Fernando Gomes

had earlier seen his poorly-hit shot saved by Setubal's Hungarian goalkeeper Ferenc Meszaros.

With Porto all but sure of lifting the championship, Benfica now seem more concerned with European competition than domestic action and lapses in concentration allowed the visitors a lucky draw.

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Amir meets Kuwait soccer team



HH the Amir with the visiting officials.

HH the Amir yesterday received the Minister of Social Affairs and Labour, Sheikh Nasser Mohammad Al Ahmed, who was accompanied by the president of the Kuwait Football Association, Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed, and the Kuwaiti national football team which competed in the 9th Gulf

Football Championship in Saudi Arabia last week. The Amir advised the team members not to blame each other but to look to the future with confidence. The Amir directed the officials at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour and the Football

Association to study the causes which led to Kuwait finishing only 5th in the tournament. The Amir told the officials to fulfil the aspirations of the Kuwaiti youth by restoring the standard of football that was prevalent in the past by ensuring the cooperation of all concerned.

Real gain revenge

MADRID, March 21. (Reuters): Spanish First Division leaders Real Madrid turned the tables on local rivals Atletico Madrid with a 3-1 trouncing yesterday.

The decisive away victory avenged the humiliating 4-0 home defeat by Atletico in November.

Encounters
Atletico striker Roberto Lopez Ufarte missed a first minute penalty then Portuguese international Paolo Futre was sent off in tears in the second half after collecting his second yellow card for handling the ball.

Atletico have not won a match in six League games, scoring only once in their last five encounters. They now trail 11 points behind the League leaders in third place, with Real Sociedad in between.

Rafael Gordillo put Real ahead in the 22nd minute and 15 minutes later Spanish striker Emilio Butragueno beat two defenders before passing back for Mexican ace Hugo Sanchez to net his 24th League goal of the season.

Butragueno was rewarded with a goal after the interval and

minutes later midfielder Enrique Setien replied for Atletico.

Real Sociedad, who trail Real Madrid by eight points with one game in hand, drew 1-1 at Real Mallorca. Mallorca striker Antonio Orejuela put Mallorca ahead in the second minute before Real Sociedad's Alberto Gorri equalised in the closing minutes.

The future of Barcelona coach Luis Aragones was thrown into doubt after his side was crushed 3-1 by Celta. For Barcelona, struggling halfway down the table, it was their first defeat at Celta's Vigo ground since the 1978-79 season.

Manuel Noly put Celta ahead in the ninth minute with a penalty, the first of four in the match. Noly gave Celta their second 15 minutes from time, also from a penalty.

Barcelona's Roberto Fernandez then missed a penalty but English international Gary Linaker made no mistake with his spot kick two minutes later.

Celta striker Camilo Casal put the result beyond doubt four minutes from time.

Gardner opens world title defence on favourite track

LONDON, March 21. (Reuters): Australian Wayne Gardner is vying to begin the defence of his first world motorcycling 500 cc title next Sunday on one of his favourite circuits, the Suzuka track in Japan.

"I like the Suzuka circuit and I've had plenty of success at the track," said Gardner who won seven Grand Prix last year. "I can't wait to get started again after the winter break."

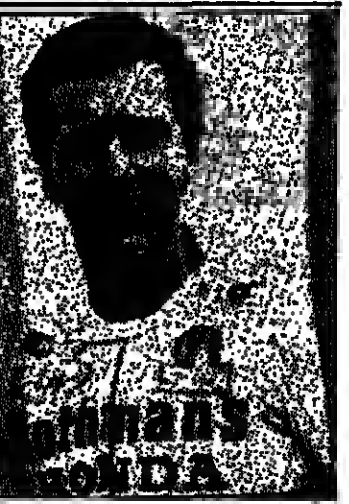
With three-time world champion Freddie Spencer deciding to retire, Gardner — the first Australian to win the world crown — shoulders Honda's hopes virtually on his own.

Recurring problems from a wrist injury persuaded American Spencer, 26, to retire last week.

Competition
But Gardner, whose victory made him an overnight hero in Australia, faces plenty of competition from the likes of Japanese riders Randy Mamola and Eddie Lawson.

Lawson, the 1986 champion, is particularly keen to make up for the disappointment of being pushed into third place by Mamola by just one point in last year's final standings, despite winning the closing race in Buenos Aires.

But Lawson's mind will also be on keeping his place as top dog in Giacomo Agostini's Yamaha team. His new teammate, Bel-



Spencer: retired last week

gum's Didier de Radigues, has ambitions of his own.

"I will not be second rider, that's not in my character," De Radigues said.

The racers were able to go ahead as normal with testing in February and early March after the International Motorcycling Federation (FIM) agreed to reschedule the Brazilian and Argentine Grand Prix which had originally been intended to open the season.

Plans to hold the two races on March 6 and March 13, earlier than the season usually starts, prompted threats of a boycott from the major teams and the FIM moved the events to September.

After Japan, April sees the American and Spanish Grand Prix with the Portuguese event, again being held in neighbouring Spain because of the poor condition of the Estoril circuit, following on May 1.

Sweden and England in semifinals

PARIS, March 21. (Reuters): Hinder Sweden, England, the Soviet Union and Hungary reached the semifinals of the men's team competition at the European Table Tennis Championships today.

Sweden, hiding for their ninth men's team title, completed their fifth straight Group A victory with a lightning 3-0 demolition of Poland.

Lost
England also maintained their 100 per cent record in Group B when they beat Yugoslavia 5-1 after number nine Desmond Douglas had lost the opening match against Zoran Primorac.

Hungary, who have won the trophy four times, defeated Bulgaria 5-3 and nearest challengers Yugoslavia succumbed in England.

Hungary surrendered the women's team title they won in Prague in 1986 when they crashed to a 3-0 defeat against Czechoslovakia, who qualified for the last four as a result.

Csilla Batnafi, Hungary's defending European singles champion, was beaten by Marie Hrachova 21-17 21-14 and also lost the doubles with Edit Urban against Hrachova and Renata Kasalova.

The rut began yesterday when the Hungarians were whitewashed by the Netherlands, who gained their semifinals place after beating Poland 3-0 in their

final Group B match. The Dutch took the second place in the group behind Czechoslovakia, who topped the pool because they won their earlier encounter with the Netherlands. Each suffered one defeat in the group.

Successful
The Soviet Union, beaten by Hungary in the 1986 final, completed their fifth successive victory with a 3-1 success over West Germany to emerge the only undefeated women's team.

They were taking on the Netherlands, while Czechoslovakia faced Yugoslavia, who beat England 3-0 to book second place behind the Soviet Union in Group A.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Dutch League

THE HAGUE, March 21. (Reuters): Dutch League leaders PSV Eindhoven bounced back from their first defeat of the season last week with a 3-1 win over Willem II at the weekend.

Second-placed Ajax thrashed Fortuna Sittard 4-0. John Bosman scored twice and Aron Winter and Jan Van 'T Schip neapiece for Ajax, who trail PSV by eight points.

Ban on alcohol

LONDON, March 21. (Reuters): "Don't drink and race" is the order for all motor racing drivers in Britain this year with the announcement of random breathalyzer tests for competitors.

The Royal Automobile Club (RAC) issued a statement today which said any competitor found with alcohol in his blood before an event would be barred from taking part.

Richards banned

LONDON, March 21. (Reuters): Number eight Dean Richards has been banned from England's special rugby union match against Ireland on April 23 for his part in the Calcutta Cup incident this month.

The match is being held to celebrate Dublin's millennium. **Triptych sold**

DEAUVILLE, France, March 21. (UPI): American racehorse owner Peter Brant has bought the champion Marc Triptych for the equivalent of \$3.4 million at a special sale relayed live across the Atlantic by satellite, organisers said today.

Brant, who has a stable in France, also bought another horse, River Memories, at Deauville for \$1.3 million last night.

Ultra-marathon

SYDNEY, Australia, March 21. (UPI): Greek athlete, Yiannis Kouris, today had almost made up a 12 hour handicap and was overhauling the leader of the Sydney to Melbourne ultra-marathon.

Kouris won last year's race by 27 hours and started this year's race 12 hours behind the other 42 runners when they set out on the 1015 km (630 miles) grind on Thursday.

Al Mulla semifinals

THE semifinals of the Al Mulla Mitsubishi League will be held on Friday at the New Gound in Ahmadi. The morning game starting at 0900 am is between Kifco and Unity. Both the umpires will be from Gulf Bank.

The afternoon match at 1.10 pm is between Falcon and Capri — umpires officiating are from Starlite and from Unity.

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